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THE TIMES

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24 1983

20p

THE TIMES **Tomorrow**

Man's work
The life of a male midwife. Lee Rodwell meets a man in a woman's world.

Cash...
Stephen Taylor in Zambia. Part 2: the economy.

...register
The changing face of Carmen.

Canal...
A Special Report on the cultural treasures of the Veneto

...boats
How life has turned out for the boat people from Vietnam.

Union ordered back to court over illegal picketing

● The National Graphical Association has been ordered to court tomorrow to explain why it has not paid a £50,000 fine for illegal secondary picketing.
● The TUC has pledged moral support for the union, but has held back from condoning breach of the law.
● The court action has been instigated by Mr Selim Shah, proprietor of the Messenger group of newspapers, who accused the union of "bullyboy tactics".
● Newspaper distributors won an injunction against Sogat '82, ordering the union to stop "blacking" magazines printed by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications Corporation.

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The National Graphical Association, which has been ordered to appear in the High Court in Manchester tomorrow to explain its refusal to pay a £50,000 fine, has been promised TUC support in its dispute with the Stockport Messenger group of newspapers, although union leader are unenthusiastic about the prospect of a confrontation with the law.

Members of the TUC general council yesterday declared its moral support for the NGA but insisted that any practical help, such as financial aid, would be given only after emergency meetings of its employment committee and general council.

There was scarcely veiled criticism of the conduct of picketing involving members of the NGA over the last two days. Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, said after the two-hour meeting that its policy was that "mass picketing is counter productive".

The union was also criticized in the House of Commons by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, who asked the House to join him in "deploring the disgraceful behaviour that occurred at Warrington and to reaffirm that such conduct has no place in industrial relations in this country and that the law must be observed".

But Mr Joe Wade, the NGA general secretary, said that mass demonstrations outside Mr Selim Shah's premises would continue until the closed shop dispute was settled.

He appealed for peaceful picketing, but was adamant that the union would not pay the £50,000 fine imposed by Mr Justice Boreham in Manchester last week.

Some union officials believe the next step could be a further fine of as much as £150,000, although all parties in the dispute, which is rapidly becoming more serious, appeared to hope that peace talks to be arranged by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service would take some of the heat out of the situation. Talks are unlikely to start before late tomorrow.

The only remaining area of disagreement is Mr Shah's refusal to reemploy six NGA members dismissed 21 weeks ago when they went on strike over a closed shop agreement.

The hearing in Manchester tomorrow will consider Mr Shah's application seeking leave to issue a writ of sequestration on the NGA for failure to observe a court order to stop secondary picketing that is unlawful under the 1980 Employment Act.

But Mr King told MPs yesterday that the court wanted to deal with the question of non-payment of the fine. The application for the sequestration writ is the technical means of reopening the case and Mr Shah's lawyers are expected to bring to the judge's attention the picketing disturbances outside the Warrington office since last Friday's hearing.

Fleet Street fathers of chapels (shop stewards) and NGA leaders from national newspaper offices in Manchester are meeting in London this evening to hear a report on the dispute from nation union officials, but it was thought unlikely that they will press for immediate action by national newspapers workers. The NGA wants to keep that "card" up its sleeve for the time being.

The dispute spread in the north west, however, when yesterday's issue of the *Manchester Evening News* failed to appear after NGA compositors refused to handle a page containing a report of court proceedings against 22 men arrested during picketing at Warrington.

Mr Murray's statement of support was stronger than he had originally intended, although he was careful not to commit the TUC to any specific form of support for the union.

The pawns, page 2
Leading article, page 13

11.02 Going in: The Soviet negotiator, Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, arriving yesterday at the Geneva talks.

11.27 Coming out: Jostled by newsmen he announces his Government has broken off the negotiations.

Smoking 'killing more than 100,000 a year'

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

The Royal College of Physicians launched its strongest attack on the Government yesterday, accusing it of failing to help to prevent a "hidden holocaust" of death and disease caused by cigarette smoking.

The college said that 100,000 people in Britain die prematurely every year because of smoking, and called for government action on a problem which was "comparable with that of the devastating epidemics of infectious disease of the past". Ministers should "tackle cigarette smoking with the urgency once given to cholera, diphtheria, polio and tuberculosis", it said in its fourth report on the health risks of smoking.

Members said yesterday that the previous report, six years ago, contained seven recommendations, only one of which was put into effect by the Government.

The new report recommends a ban on sales promotion of tobacco, a steady annual increase in tobacco tax, and reductions in the tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide yields of cigarettes.

It strives to alert almost every section of the community to the hazards, including non-smokers, and women and children in particular. It says that non-smoking wives may be more likely to contract lung cancer because their husbands smoke, and that pregnant women who smoke, harm their unborn children and impair their subsequent development.'

Children of smokers are more prome to chest infections, are shorter than their primary school friends whose parents do not smoke, and may lag behind them by six or seven months in intellectual ability at the age of 11.

The college says that the annual death toll in Britain caused by smoking is "not less than 100,000" and adds: "This figure is so large that it completely dwarfs the number of deaths that can be reliably attributed to any other known external factors such as alcohol, road accidents, or suicide."

Among 1,000 young male smokers in England and Wales, "on average one will be mudered, six will be killed in road accidents, and 250 will be killed before their time by tobacco."

The report's authors say: "With this vast toll of entirely unnecessary disease and early death it might have been thought that the Government would have acted swifly and in a coordinated way to try to

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Pensions protection pledged by Fowler

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Legislation to protect pensions of people who move from one job to another, and a wider ranging inquiry into the future of pensions into the next century, were announced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday.

The inquiry, which he is to chair and which will take evidence in public, will examine the age of retirement, changes in the age structure of the population and how that will affect the financing of pensions in future. It will also consider the possibilities of "portable pensions" by which individuals can identify their stake in pension funds and take it with them when they change jobs.

The inquiry, which is due to report by next autumn, would include treasury, employment and trade and industry ministers, and outside experts, Mr Fowler said. The intention was to make it "as open as possible".

The Government is expected today to object to a recommendation from the Commons Select Committee on Social Services that the pension age for men and women should be gradually equalized at 63, but that issue will go before the inquiry.

Mr Fowler said the inquiry would study "the future development, adequacy and cost of state, occupational and private provision for retirement in Britain, including the portability of pension rights, and consider possible changes in those arrangements".

A key issue would be changes in the age structure of the population over the next 40 years and how pensions should be financed.

Mr Fowler said: "The present projections show a patchwork, with falls as well as rises in the numbers of old people relative to the population".

While the proportion of those over 65 would remain more or less stable until about 2010, the indications thereafter are that the proportion of elderly would rise quite rapidly.

Estimates of future pension costs involved not only the age structure but assumptions about price and earnings increases. On the least favourable assumption by the Government Actuary, contribution rates could increase from 15.4 per cent to 21.9 per cent by the year 2025.

Meanwhile, the Government hopes to legislate in the next session of Parliament to protect those who change jobs but have to leave pension rights behind.

In addition, the Government is to publish a consultative document on providing individuals with more information about the pension schemes to which they belong.

Cosmonauts return to Earth

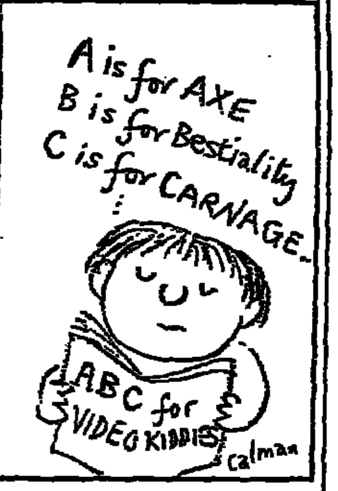
The two cosmonauts who spent five months in the Salyut 7 space station returned safely to Earth last night. Tass said Soyuz T9, with Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov on board, had separated from Salyut 7 earlier in the day.

Italians seize Briton's home

An Italian judge ordered seizure of the home and land in Italy belonging to Mr Stephen May, husband of Mrs Jeanette May, pending a decision on whether to pay a £42,000 reward to the man who found Mrs May's body in January 1982.

Growth doubts

Slower economic growth, rising unemployment and higher inflation are forecast for next year by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, contradicting the Treasury's optimism **Page 17**



Video nasties

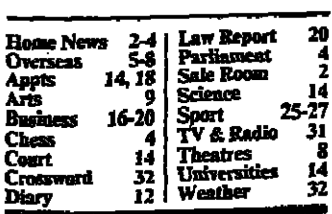
Four out of ten children have seen video nasties, which are often shown at children's parties, it has been claimed **Page 3**

Delhi warning

Mrs Thatcher dispelled Commonwealth hopes of establishing a new economic order and told heads of government in Delhi that there was no magic formula to transform world trade **Page 5**

Blomqvist wins

Stig Blomqvist, of Sweden, driving a British-prepared Audi Quattro, won the Lombard RAC Rally which finished in Bath yesterday. **Page 26**



Pickets fail to stop delivery vans

By a Staff Reporter

Amid angry scenes, pickets failed yesterday to prevent delivery vans leaving the printing works near Warrington, Cheshire, of The Messenger group of newspapers.

In the early morning about 600 pickets from more than 12 unions from the North and Midlands, stopped three attempts by delivery vans to drive out of the plant on a modern industrial estate alongside the M62.

But later in the morning the pickets had dwindled to about a hundred and two vans containing 140,000 newspapers got out. Another 90,000 papers left in two vans in the afternoon and evening, as police linked arms to hold back pickets who fought to block the exits.

In one scuffle the pickets' pressure on policemen knocked over a breeze-block wall, breaking a policeman's leg and slighty injuring two pickets. In a later confrontation, when two empty vans tried to get back into the works, another policeman's arm was broken in three places.

Two demonstrators were arrested in the scuffles. With *five* others others arrested on Tuesday they were charged with obstruction and breach of the peace. Among those arrested and released on bail was the NGA's national officer, Mr Robert Tomlins.

He said he was delighted with the pickets' success in delaying distribution. "We are trying to keep this as peaceful as possible. The injuries when the wall fell down were an unfortunate accident, and pickets showed their concern by moving aside for an ambulance immediately."

The company's chairman, Mr Selim Shah, said of his decision to return to the High Court that he was not concerned at the consequences of the union's funds being sequestrated. "I am concerned for the safety of my 120 employees and the future of this company".

He accused the NGA of using "bullyboy tactics", and said he would mention the past two days of picketing in court tomorrow morning as further evidence of breaches of trade union law.

He also alleged that triangular slash cuts had been made in the tyres of two of his vehicles causing one to have a puncture on the motorway on Tuesday night. "This is wild anarchy and chaos", he said.

"I am not going to give in. What else can I do? I have a family business to consider."

Another NGA national officer, Mr George Jerrom, was cheered by pickets when he announced that the TUC had backed the NGA, and that many unions had pledged support for picketing the print works for next week's publication.

"We are not going to settle for anything less than the reinstatement of the Stockport six and we will go on demonstrating until we achieve that."

Maxwell wins injunction

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

London's wholesale newpaper distributers yesterday won an injunction to stop the print union, Sogat '82, "blacking" the distribution of magazines printed by the British Printing and Communications Corporation (BPCC). Under the order, the union will have to halt the action immediately wholesalers were hoping last night that they would receive copies of *TV Times, Woman* and *Women's Own* which have been delayed, and that the distribution of *Woman's Weekly, Woman's Realm, Country Life* and possibly the *Radio Times* would now go ahead as normal.

There was no indication last night, however, whether Sogat's central London branch would obey the injunction.

The order, taken out by 11 companies, including W H Smith and Menzies, names as the defendants the union itself and the central London branch deputy secretary, Mr Edward Chard.

The Justice Taylor granted the order in chambers at the High Court in London and gave Sogat until tomorrow afternoon to appeal. But the order has immediate effect.

The court action has been brought under the 1980 Employment Act and follows "secondary action" by Sogat in sympathy with 550 workers at BPCC's Park Royal plant, in West London

A small number of workers yesterday continued their sit-in at the plant, but Mr Robert Maxwell, the chairman of BPCC, has transferred typesetting of the *Radio Times* and *The Listener* to Wheatons of Exeter with the tacit approval of the national leadership of both Sogat and the Natioanl Graphical Association, the other print union involved.

A specal meeting of the national council of Sogat is to meet tomorrow. Mr Williams Keys, the general secretary of the union, will repeat his advice that the blacking action should stop.

Nato tries to keep arms talks going

By Our Foreign Staff

Governments of Nato countries last night began taking the first steps to find means of keeping nuclear disarmament negotiations alive after the walkout by the Soviet Union in Geneva.

The expected breakdown came after a 25-minute meeting at the intermediate range nuclear force (INF) talks with the chief Russian negotiator, Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, announcing: "This round has been discontinued and no date set for a resumption."

The Russian action, which had been often threatened, followed the vote in the German Bundestag on Tuesday night in favour of basing American Pershing 2 missiles in West Germany. Within a few hours of the vote the first parts began to arrive of the nine Pershings which are scheduled to be operational by the end of the year.

President Reagan said he was disappointed but not surpried by the Russian decision. "I cannot believe the walkout is permanent", he said before leaving Washington to spend the Thanksgiving holiday at his ranch in California.

The American negotiators would remain in Geneva. The United States would be ready to continue the negotiations whenever the Russians were ready to come back. He did not believe the walk-out increased the danger of a nuclear conflict between the superpowers. "I think they will come back because they are aware as much as we are that there cannot be a nuclear confrontation in Europe", he added.

In the Commons there were noisy exchanges with Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, expressing regret for the Russians' action and saying the Government could see no justification for it.

In Bonn the Government spokesman, Herr Peter Boenisch, said that new diplomatic initiatives were being prepared to get a resumption of talks. Among the moves which Bonn now undertake in various places and at various levels was suport for the proposal by Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, for a conference of the five nuclear powers.

Mr Luce said the British Government was working with its allies for an agreement. "Certainly any proposals such as those from Mr Trudeau must be seriously considered."

It was disclosed in Bonn that a meeting of Nato's special consultative group, which deals with disarmament matters, would be held in Brussels on December 8 to underline the alliance's readiness to negotiate, and this would be followed by a further meeting of the group in the middle of January.

In Moscow comment was relatively low key, leading some diplomats to support President Reagan's view that the Russians would soon return to negotiations. A statement by Tass referred to the "discontinuation of the present round of talks without setting any date for their resumption". Some saw the reference to the

Continued on back page, col5

Thomson may launch 10 evening newspapers

Up to 10 local evening newspapers could be launched by Thomson Regional Newspapes if suitable agreements can be reached with the unions on using new technology, Mr Bil Heeps, TRN's managing director, said yesterday.

If single key stroking could be employed, with journalists sending material direct to the computer to be typeset: "There are 10 places where it would be possible to have a viable evening newspaper," Mr Heeps said.

He would not say which places TRN had in mind, but emphasized, that the focus would be local and that with sufficiently low costs a circulation of only 30,000 copies would be profitable.

TRN is owned by the International Thomson Organisation, former owners of *The Times* and *Sunday Times.*

Jenkin backs down on green belt circular

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, is responding to pressure from his backbenchers and withdrawing a circular to local authorities which has been seen as foreshadowing a relaxation of the Government's green belt policy.

He told the Commons yesterday that his original circular had been widely misunderstood and that it would be sensible to issue another.

His announcement comes after strong pressure from the three local authority associations, the Council for the Protection of Rural England, the Civic Trust, the National Farmers' Union, and more than 50 MPs.

Missing £9m eludes De Lorean receivers

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A Commons select committee was told yesterday that a two-year investigation by the De Lorean Motor Cars receivers had failed to track down almost £9m missing after payment to a mystery company in Geneva.

The Committee of Public Accounts is investigating the failure of the De Lorean company, wound up last year with an estimated loss £79m of taxpayers' money.

MPs on the committee concentrated their attention on the "unheard of" Swiss company called GPD Services Inc, which had been brought in to act as an intermediary between the De Lorean company on the one side and Lotus Cars, of Norwich, and the then Lotus chairman, Mr Colin Chapman on the other.

Lotus was to carry out the research and development work on the car project, but Mr Chapman who died last year, had insisted that GPD, of Geneva, should be used as a buffer company "because of his concern that government support for De Lorean Motor Cars might not continue with a change of government".

But the MPs were last night told that although Lotus received a direct payment of £11.5m for work done between April, 1979, and December, 1981, two further payments of $5.1m (then about £2.4m) and $12.5m, made to GPD, were not received by Lotus in Norwich.

Two of the MPs on the committee, Mr Frederick Silvester, (Labour, Coventry North-East), expressed surprise that Lotus should have done £9m worth of work "out of the goodness of their heart".

Mr Anthony Hopkins, deputy chief executive of the Northern Ireland Development Board, disclosed that the Bank of England had approved the payment of the $5.1m to GPD in Geneva under exchange control procedures.

Mr Michael Latham, Conservative MP for Rutland and Melton, said that the committee had "listened in horror" to the details of payments made. He revealed that criminal investigations were continuing.

At the start of the hearing, Mr Tate made clear that his colleague, Mr Kenneth Bloomfield, a former permanent secretary at the Department of Commerce, had not joined that department until February 1981 and he had not therefore been responsible for the initial negotiations with De Lorean in 1978.

Appeal to PLO

Moscow urged the splintered PLO to settle its differences by political means, saying Russia would help "in every way possible" **Page 8**

Ferry strike

Cross-Channel ferry services from Dover to Calais and Boulogne were halted yesterday by a strike at the French ports. The strike was expected to last 24 hours.

Border security

Two senior RUC officers have been drafted into south Armagh to lead the fight against terrorists in border areas **Page 2**

The Warrington dispute

Employer and staff become pawns in a national battle over union law

The two sides facing each other across a littered printers yard in Warrington, Cheshire, are agreed on only one issue: they are now pawns in a national battle over trade union law.

Mr Selim Shah, aged 39, chairman of the Messenger group of three newspapers, which is refusing to reinstate six members of the National Graphical Association dismissed in a closed-shop dispute, has become the unions' bogyman in a trial of strength over union rights. "There is the big union on one side, and the law on the other, and I am here stuck in the middle," Mr Shah said.

Behind the printing works door his press rolled on yesterday, producing 230,000 copies of the six-edition weekly free sheet which distributes in Cheshire and Lancashire.

Mr. Shah, who worked in television and the theatre before launching the Messenger group 11 years ago, claims "bewilderment" at the escalation of the dispute to a point where £10m of NGA funds could be sequestered and a possible national NGA strike called.

"We have done nothing wrong. All we have done is protect the rights of our staff to choose whether they join or do not join a trade union", he said.

Waiting for the confrontation

Outside, 200 pickets, including members of a dozen other unions from all over the North and Midlands, sip tea from their snack-vans, play football with plastic cups and stoke braziers of firewood as they wait for the next confrontation with the police. They are addressed by a local Sogat '82 member, who says: "It is not about this feller in here – he's a pawn in the game. It is about the future of trade unions as a whole".

The dispute started 21 weeks ago, when six NGA members at the Messenger's Fineward works, in Stockport, went on strike. They said that the company had broken a closed-shop agreement by taking on non-union printers at the new printing works at Winwick Quay Estate, in Warrington, as well as at the existing Stockport and Bury centre.

Mr Shah said that he tried to negotiate a new agreement allowing him to retain non-union staff, but dismissed the men on July 4, when talks failed.

Small-scale picketing continued, with Mr Shah alleging that some of his 120 employees were threatened, spat at, abused and punched by pickets.

The dispute escalated when journalists refused to work with non-union printers. But members of the chapel (office branch) of National Union of Journalists at the Messenger's Stockport office backed down when Mr Shah challenged them in court.

The NGA picket line became increasingly bitter and Mr Shah returned to court in October, gaining an injunction to end secondary picketing at all the company's works. Last week, the union was fined £50,000 in the High Court in Manchester for failing to observe the injunction.

On the Warrington picket lines, scenes became more violent last week, with stones being hurled at vans and police officers as the pickets tried to prevent distribution of the newspapers.

NGA leaders on the picket lines were clear yesterday that the dispute is over the threat to the closed shop and the NGA's fiercely defended role as the only printers' union.

Mr Bob Tomlins, a national officer, said yesterday: "It has become a test battle. If Mr Shah successfully sequesters NGA funds it will mean the courts appointing people to go into our offices and take over the administration and our funds.

"Two years ago if you had said it would lead to this, people would have told you it was outrageous scaremongering. This fight is about the law and its ability to neuter our members' chances of defending themselves."

Talks at the Arbitration Conciliation and Advisory Service (Acas) last Sunday, broke down when Mr Shah again refused to reemploy the Stockport six, although he says that union leaders have told him they were prepared to settle the dispute and afterwards discuss the future of the six men.

Threats to staff alleged

"It is terrible that the working man is in a situation where if he does not want to join a trade union, a thousand people arrive threatening to break his head. That is going back to Nazism, to the days of the Brown Shirts", Mr Shah said.

He added: "If I take those people back, half my staff would walk out."

He says that one youth aged 19 suffered a black eye after being struck by pickets and others have changed their home telephone numbers after receiving abusive calls.

Mr Frank Walsh, NGA northern regional secretary, replied: "He has invoked the trade union law and we are only reacting to that."

Mr Bill Kearney, a picket who travelled with 23 other NGA members from Oxford yesterday, said: "I am here because if this chap's allowed to get away with it, others will do the same. It would mean the end of the printing industry as we know it – it would crush the unions.

The NGA's leaflet distributed to pickets puts the case more colourfully: "He has offered a ballot, very fair and democratic you may think. But among employees recruited for their anti-union views? It is like balloting Manchester United fans on whether they would like Manchester City to win the FA Cup."

Man in the News

Limelight that took over from the footlights

Mr Selim Shah, known to his friends as Eddie, has excellent credentials for a man who finds himself at the centre of a battle between trade union solidarity and entrepreneurial freedom. Age 39, the son of a Persian father and English mother, he worked in theatre and film production before joining the BBC in London and then Granada Television in Manchester as a programme manager.

Eleven years ago he went into a bank and asked for a loan to set up his group of three weekly newspapers. "I just thought people can have free television through advertising, why not newspapers?", he said.

His idea was a profitable success, bringing the Messenger group a £5m turnover last year.

He now shares a comfortable house in Manchester's "gin and tonic" belt in Altrincham, with his wife and three children. He plays golf, flies a private jet, and yet joined the National Graphical Association because "you can't understand what your work force feel unless you understand its problems".

His long background in the media has clearly prepared him for his unexpected launch into the headlines.

Inside his printing works, despite two nights of little sleep, he seems relaxed and confident, while he tries to outwit the pickets.

Yet he is keenly conscious of the publicity attracted by the dispute. Yesterday he made a special point of asking the *Daily Mail* to join *The Times* and *Guardian* when he picked reporters to interview him.

Mr Shah inside his printing works at Warrington yesterday.

Anthony Mitchell, disabled by a hospital mistake.

£35,000 for loss of arm

Anthony Mitchell, aged four, who had half an arm amputated because of a hospital mistake a few weeks after his premature birth, was awarded £35,000 by a judge in the High Court in Liverpool yesterday.

A bandage securing a tube to his arm was tied too tightly, stopping circulation and causing the forearm to wither.

Mr Anthony Mitchell, his father, said the award against Liverpool Area Health Authority was inadequate. He also criticized the conduct of the authority, which admitted liability only last month.

Civil Service grades to be reformed

By David Walker

Seventeen years on, the Government is to implement the Fulton Committee's recommendation that all senior civil servants should be graded on the same scale, to allow much more flexibility in where officials work and to break down the barriers between specialists and generalists.

The reform, to be introduced in January without, the Government hopes, any extra cost, abolishes about a hundred separate job classifications. Lord Gowrie, the minister responsible to the Prime Minister for civil servants, said yesterday that efficiency should be improved.

At present, only three most senior ranks of permanent, deputy and under secretary have a unified grading scheme – the "open structure". The unified scheme is now extended to civil servants ranked as assistant secretaries and senior principals.

There are to be six grades for the 6,000 civil servants above the main administrative grade of principal. Between, the position of under secretary and assistant secretary, there is to be a grade to be known simply as grade four.

Lord Gowrie said: "Pay and grading structures can have a significant impact on efficiency because they affect the organization of the work itself, as well as the way in which the skills and abilities of staff are deployed.

"Unified grading removes occupational distinctions which can be artificial impediments to the deployment of staff at levels where managerial abilities and skills are oftem more important than the practice of particular specialisms."

Top RUC men will head new border campaign

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Two senior Nothern Ireland police offecers have been drafted into south Armagh to lead the fight against terrorism on the border.

The announcement by Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary came as the province's police authority gave its full backing to him in the face of Unionist demands for his resignation.

But even as the decision was announced, the Provisional IRA struck in the village of New Buildings, co Londonderry, injuring two Roman Catholic brothers, one a former member of the RUC reserve, with a booby-trapped car bomb. Their condition was said last night to be not serious.

Londonderry unit of the Provisional IRA claimed responsibility for the attack but indicated it had not known that one of the men had left the police reserve. The police later warned all former members of the security forces to be on their guard as part of the increased alert for terrorist attacks.

One of the RUC's two deputy chief constables, Mr Charles Rogers, is to take charge of policing in the border area, particularly in south Armagh. An assistant chief constable is to join an officer of the same rank, who already had responsibility for policing rural areas, including the border area.

More troops are in the area already in the wake of the killing of three church elders near Darkley, co Armagh.

The police authority took the unusual step yesterday of commenting on a particular terrorist incident, saying the reaction from some quarters had forced it to go public about the "foul murder of innocent worshippers" at the weekend.

Its statement also gave complete support to the chief constable and in the face of Unionist criticism of Sir John in the past few days. The authority said it continued to have the fullest confidence in him.

The last two victims of the shooting at Mountain Lodge Pentecostal Hall were buried yesterday.

● A judge found seven men not guilty at Belfast Crown Court yesterday of terrorist charges after describing an informer as someone who lived in a half-world between reality and charade.

Lord Justic Gibson said that no reliability could be placed on the evidence of a self-confessed Irish National Liberation Army commander.

Two of the seven found not guilty on the twenty-seventh day of a trial in which 18 people face 75 terrorist charges walked free from the court but the others face outstanding charges and remain in custody.

MP alleges paedophilia at palace

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was asked yesterday to investigate an MP's file of cases involving allegations of paedophilia in Buckingham Palace and the diplomatic and civil services.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Littleborough and Saddleworth, said he had asked for the meeting to press the Home Secretary for a change in the law to protect young children.

"I am going to give him a glimpse inside my private files, where people have written to me with information."

The file contained details of one case in which, he said, disciplinary proceedings had been taken against a civil servant. "It was a case of a civil servant receiving 57 indecent photographs involving children. There appears, on face value, to have been a cover-up, which I want investigating."

Mr Dickens refused to go into details of the case allegedly involving an employee at Buckingham Palace

Unions urge nurses to fail exams

Health Service Union leaders yesterday urged trainee nurses to fail their examinations. Officials of the National Union of Public Empoyees have said they will encourage nurses to do badly after 10 newly qualified state registered nurses were dismissed two hours after passing their examinations. They were dismissed from Merseyside's largest psychiatric hospital at Rainhill.

Five nurses who did not pass were given an extension training contract until January and allowed to continue working.

A spokesman for St Helens and Knowsley area health authority said: "The nursing staff budget at Rainhill hospital is substantially overspent and this is due mainly to excessive overtime being worked. The amount of money being spent on overtime equates to 50 full-time posts".

Health pay team named

Membership of the review body to recommend pay for Britain's 500,000 nurses, midwives and other health professions was announced yesterday. Sir John Greenborough was appointed chairman in September; other members are: Miss Beryl Cooper, QC, a former health service administrator and a Crown Court recorder; Mrs Suzette Harold, a director of Davy Computing; Sir John Herbecq, a Church Commissioner and former Second Permanent Secretary in the Civil Service Department; Dr Graham Hills, principal and vice-chancellor of Strathclyde University; Mrs Jenny Hughes, group industrial relations director for Macmillan Publishers and Professor George Thomason, professor of industrial relations at Cardiff University. A seventh member is to be appointed later.

Parole protest

Dr Julian Candy, a Buckinghamshire psychiatrist, has resigned from the Parole Board in protest against the new tough line on parole policy announced by the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, to the Conservative Party conference.

Bridge meeting

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport, will meet a delegation from the board which administers the Humber Bridge today. The mounting debts from the bridge will be discussed.

Rebel electricians face pressure

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of rebel Fleet Street electricians are coming under increasing pressure to end their defiance of the TUC and return to their original union after indications that their support might be starting to ebb away.

Resistance to rejoining Mr Frank Chapple's Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union is still strong among electricians who have joined the printing trade union Sogat '82, but their numbers are thought to be dwindling in the face of hostility from both the TUC and Sogat.

Sogat was ordered by the TUC to bar the electricians from membership although it made no order that they should return to the EETPU. At one time about 800 electricians were said to have joined the London Machine Branch of Sogat, although the EETPU's Fleet Street leaders say that fewer than 500 of the total 1,200 membership of their branch are not paying subscriptions.

About 450, have actually resigned from the EETPU, and it is this hardcore that is reluctant to rejoin. Their position came under pressure this week when the electricians at the *Daily Express* decided to return to the EETPU.

The electricians' union's position was further strengthened this week by a statement from the Newspaper Publishers Association reaffirming its commitment to the EETPU's closed shop in Fleet Street. The union has said it will take action to enforce that closed shop, through industrial action if necessary, if the breadaway electricians continue their defiance.

The EETPU's Fleet Street officials claim there has been a steady trickle of members back from the breakaway group led by Mr Sean Geraghty.

Mirror Group fight

Unions at the *Scottish Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* in Glasgow are to oppose Reed International's decision to sell off Mirror Group Newspapers as a single entitiy. They are demanding access to Reed International's books to test the feasibility of the two titles continuing as a separate company to preserve the newspapers' Scottish character, (David Black writes).

The law that may aid Shah's campaign

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr Eddie Shah is to seek leave from the Queen's Bench Division in Manchester, to issue a writ of sequestration.

The hearing tomorrow will deal also with the issue of non-payment of the fine by the NGA.

Mr Shah's legal advisers said that if he was granted leave he would then return to the court for a writ. If the writ is issued, Mr Shah, according to his advisers, may appoint four commissioners who will move in to take over assets until the union has purged its contempt.

The Contempt of Court Act, 1981, can also give a role to the Queen's Remembrancer, Master Bickford-Smith, Senior Master of the Queen's Bench, who is concerned with its procedure.

Under the Act he would treat a fine as if it were due to him as a judgment debt. Order 45, Rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court then apply.

The options open to the remembrancer include:

● A writ of *fieri facias:* the seizure and sale of the debtor's goods and chattels sufficient to satisfy the debt and costs of execution.

● Garnishes: attachment of a debt, including a bank account, sufficient to cover the fine and costs.

● An order charging the debtor's property with the amount owed so that when sold the amount becomes due for payment.

● Appointment of a receiver to sort out the financial affairs of the debtor to ensure the money gets to the remembrancer.

● Committal to prison or sequestration by the remembrancer are not available unless a time limit is attached to the fine.

● The remembrancer would have to apply to the High Court for an order to commit a person to prison for contempt.

The court retains common law powers, including committal to prison, if necessary.

Law Society rebuts MP's attack

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

In a worsening dispute over moves to end the solicitors' monopoly on property conveyancing the Law Society, their governing body, retaliated yesterday at accusations reported in *The Times.*

Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, had been reported as saying the society was opposing his private member's Bill on conveyancing before it had read it.

The society said it twice wrote to Mr Mitchell asking for a meeting to discuss the Bill, which he initiated as long ago as June 30. The meeting took place last Friday, four and a half months later.

Plea to tackle squeeze on science budget

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Research proposals "of great scientific promise" are being rejected increasingly because of the squeeze on Britain's science budget, according to Professor John Kingman, chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council.

Professor Kingman took the opportunity of yesterday's publication of the council's annual report to plead vigorously for more government funds. He contrasted Britain's emphasis on immediate industrial pay-offs with other western countries, which are increasing spending on basic research.

The competition for grants from the council is becoming steadily more interise. The council now has to reject about a quarter of all applications whose scientific merit is rated "alpha". A few years ago, less than 10 per cent of alpha proposals failed.

In 1982-83 the council recommended 2,118 grants worth £84m for approval. That value was 15 per cent up on the previous year. But the council received applications for a total of £228m worth of grants – 17 per cent more than 1981-82.

The scientific highlights of 1982/83 were in astronomy and nuclear physics. The Infra Red Stronomy Satellite (IRAS), a joint venture by Britain, the United States and the Netherlands, has made several spectacular discoveries

Report fot 1982/83 (SERC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon: £5).

Official statistics

'Fewer pensioners by 2001'

By Nicholas Timmins and David Walker

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, relied on the work of the Government's actuaries and demographers when he contradicted the Prime Minister's view that pensioners are a mounting "burden" on the working population.

The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys predicts that the total number of British pensioners will fall slightly by the beginning of the twenty-first century – unless there is some significant medical breakthrough or a drastic reduction in cigarette smoking.

Official statistics do support Mrs Thatcher's statement in an interview in July that when she reaches retirement age there will be "rather more pensioners than there are now." She is 60 in two years' time and during this period there will be an increase of about 100,000 in the total number of pensioners. But 1985-86 will be a peak from which pensioner numbers will fall.

Those aged over 65 are projected to reach 8.2 million in Great Britain in 1986, rise to 8.3 million in 1991 then fall back to 7.9 million by the year 2001. The number of pensioners is predicted to drop from 9.7 million by 1986 to 9.3 million by 2001.

Pensioners and their support (Great Britain)

	Pensioners (millions)	Labour force (members per pensioner*)
1981	9.65	2.76
1986	9.78	2.82
1991	9.77	2.87
1996	9.55	2.93
2001	9.34	2.99
2006	9.35	2.98
2011	9.78	2.84
2016	10.20	2.68

*assuming existing birth rates continue

The Government Actuary's Department predicts that the ratio of people of working age to pensioners will improve. In England and Wales in 1978 there were 2.76 "workers" to each pensioner, by 1991 there will be 2.85 and by 2001 there will be just over three.

Mrs Thatcher's pessism is justified only if the rate of unemployment increases during the rest of this decade creating an unfavourable ratio between those working and those on retirement pensions.

Although the total number of pensioners will remain fairly stable for the next 25 years the numbers of those who are vey old will increase – and this has led to worry about the impact on the National Health Service and on social services.

In a recent speech Dr Donald Acheson, chief medical officer designate at the DHSS, made plain that the growth in numbers of very old people would push up health costs but gave a warning against superficial interpretations.

He added that changes in family life could reduce the amount of care for the elderly. Although the divorce rate and therefore the number of people living alone was rising – with a consequent increase in the demand for state assistance – the age at which men die is also rising, meaning that there are likely to be more elderly couples with one member able to support the other.

Higher pensions, however, are what many actuaries and demographers fear. If present birth rates continue into the next century then by the year 2020 the tax and National Insurance burden on the working population will have to increase considerably to meet the pensions then payable under the earnings-related scheme introduced in 1975.

Mr John Ermisch of the Policy Studies Institute has calculated that pension contributions will need to rise by 60 per cent in the 30 years after 2006 to around one third of earnings. Mr Ermisch argues that people starting work now should be told to lower their expectations to avoid disappointment come 2030.

Sale Room

High prices for collection of an American in Paris

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Gouverneur Morris, who succeeded Thomas Jefferson as United States minister in the court of Louis XVI in 1792, remained in Paris through the Revolution, unsuccessfully plotted the escape from Paris of the king and Marie-Antoinette and finally returned to New York in 1798 with his collection of books, wines and furniture – a selection of which his descendants sold at Christie's in New York on Tuesday for suitably astronomic prices.

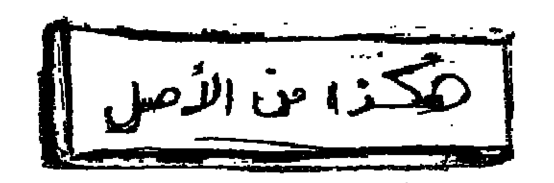
A giltwood armchair made for Marie-Antoinette's *grand cabinet interieur* in the palace of Versailles and later acquired by Morris sold for $220,000, or £147,651. It had been estimated to fetch in excess of $100,000. It was made around 1779 by Francois Foliot and in 1783 Georges Jacob appears to have been commissioned to make some more pieces to match. A pair of these Jacob *canapès* sold for $60,500, or £40,604.

The other sensational piece among the Morris furniture was a clock by the royal clockmaker Jean-Antoine Lepine, an ormolu mounted mahogany regulator which sold for $132,000 (estimate $60,000 to $90,000), or £88,590.

The sale of French furniture proved very successful with a total of £1.6m and only 10 per cent unsold. All the main purchasers chose to remain anonymous.

By an unusual clash of scheduling, Sotheby's in Bond Street and Christie's South Kensington were both selling Victorian pictures yesterday afternoon and the buyers apparently went to Christie's. Their sale was only 4 per cent unsold while Sotheby's had an ugly 47 per cent left. Christie's best price was £7,500 (estimate £5,000 to £8,000) for a genre painting by Regency dress by Pierre Outin, entitled *Vous feriez nous l'honneur.*

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 26; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 160; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $6.50; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100



Four out of ten children have seen video nasties, questionnaire reveals

By Kenneth Gosling

Hundreds of thousands of children aged between six and sixteen have seen video nasties, and, it was claimed yesterday, scenes of horrific violence and sex are often shown at birthday parties where they are replacing the conjuror as entertainment.

Figures published yesterday in a special report prepared for a parliamentary inquiry, show that four out of ten children in a survey sample had seen flims such as *Driller Killer* and *I Spit On Your Grave*.

Dr Clifford Hill, director of the inquiry, said at a press conference in London yesterday: "Very often the films were shown at birthday parties, where the nasty has replaced the conjuror.

"Older children go out and rent them intending to shock the younger ones. I would say that in some homes, particular where there are younger parents, the video cassette recorder is replacing the baby-sitter".

The report, which is the esult of research set up by an all-party group from both Houses of Parliament, led the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan, to say: "There must be many who peddle these things who know what they peddle and I would put those who know in the same category as those who traffic in drugs".

Lord Coggan was among members of the Lords who were shown a 20-minute police compilation of nasties.

The emphasis in the films was on violence rather than sex, he said. "They were not the blue film variety but there was a strong sexual element – rape and so on – and one of the dangers is that the child's introduction to sex is in the context of violence.

He said he had no doubt that the effect of video nasties would be seen in increasing violence in society.

A group of Coventry children, all aged nine, were questioned by their teachers about videos they had seen.

David said: "I like seeing people killed. I like it because it's more aggro."

Warren: "I like all the blood coming out."

Stevie: "I like the bit in *Driller Killer* where he puts a man up on sticks and he's like this (demonstrates pose) and then he gets drill and puts it through his stomach and he screams for ages. Then he dies."

Teachers appeared to have been amazed at what their discussions revealed. They had no ideal, they said, what the children had been watching; and they were extremely surprised at their lucid and lurid accounts of violence, and of bloody and horrific scenes.

The report is the first of three, issued now to coincide with the Video Recordings Bill, introduced by Mr Graham Bright, Conservative MP for Luton South, and given its second reading in the Commons a fortnight ago. Research was conducted with the cooperation of the country's education authorities and financed privately by the churches and other well wishers.

Questionnaires were answered by 6,000 children who were given a list of 100 most popular video films interspersed with 32 either found obscene or the subject of legal proceedings.

Questioned about exposure to individual videos – 17.7 per cent had watched *Bogey Man*, and more than eight per cent, *I Spit On Your Grave*

The report refers to a 25 per cent increase in violent crime between 1978 and 1982 and the fact that of the world total of about 36.5 million video recorders, 6 million or 17.9 per cent are in British homes.

More detailed findings, using psychiatric evidence of the effects on children of viewing nasties, will be published next spring; but the interim report says a significant number of children of all ages described nightmares attributable to watching nasties.

The Rev Peter Liddelow, deputy headmaster of a comprehensive school in west London, said he had spoken to 10 out of 13 children who had seen violent films on home videos.

"Several had dreams in which atrocities they had seen were carried out on them; others reenacted what they saw".

The report expresses police frustration at the length of time taken to obtain prosecutions in connexion with suspected video nasties. And video dealers and distributors as well as the police were anxious for clarification on what constituted "a tendency to deprave or corrupt" as defined in the Obscene Publications Act 1959.

The report adds: "There appears to be a widespread view among the police themselves that they have all the powers they need to remove video nasties from sale or hire to the public. What they feel they do not have is what *constitutes* a video nasty – and this, they argue, can only be obtained by redefining the Obscene Publications Act".

It also comments that in addition to hundreds of thousands of children having seen films which have been legally declared obscene, the number would run into millions if to these are added video films said to be unsuitable for children and those of a nervous disposition.

Video Violence and Children: Report of a Parliamentary Group Video Inquiry: Part One – Children's Viewing Patterns; (P.G.V.E. Report Office, 58 Hanover Gardens, London SE11 5TN; £3 plus 75p postage and packing). Over 10 copies write for bulk purchase list.

The van from which a security guard vanished allegedly with £48,000 in London yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

Police seek missing security guard and £48,000

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

London detectives yesterday were hunting a security guard who allegedly vanished from his van with nearly £48,000 and left a note saying the money was his answer to impending redundancy.

The note, discovered after firemen cut into the armoured van, also contained an apology to the man's colleagues who had left him alone in the vehicle while they went to the Baker Street Underground station to see about a cash collection.

The guard works for Mint Security yesterday he was the radio operator in a team of three men delivering and collecting cash from eight customers in the central London area. Just after midday the van pulled up outside the station and the driver and a second guard went inside.

The missing guard, aged 52 and originally from St Vincent in the West Indies, was left in the rear of the van. A colleague returned and called to him in the back but received no reply.

The guard thought that the man might be ill, but there was no way he could get inside the van because of the security system built into it. The police, an ambulance and two fire engines with special cutting eqipment were called to the scene.

After nearly 30 minutes the van was opened up through a ventilation cowling and the disappearance of the guard discovered. Scotland Yard said they believed the man had walked away into the lunchtime crowds in the West End of London carrying the money in three plastic shopping bags.

Mint Security, part of the Securicor group, said a total of £42,928 in cash had disappeared, plus £4,849 in cheques. The money had been carried in eight containers in the rear of the van as the crew went on their rounds.

The guard, who has not been named, lives in east London. A spokesman for Securicor said they were not aware of any redundanceis being carried out.

Fire-fighting fit: Miss Julia Blanchard, aged 18, giving a helping hoist yesterday to Miss Lynne Gunning, aged 22, after they completed their basic training with the London Fire Brigade. The two new fire women, together with their colleague, Miss Liz Hollingsworth, aged 18, will bring to four the number of full-time female fire fighters in the London area (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

The Arts Council

Urgent request for more cash

By David Hewson

The Arts Council said yesterday that it had asked for a 20 per cent increase in its cash grant from the Government amid pessimistic predictions about the future for many cultural organizations.

Lord Gowrie, the Minister for the Arts, is expected to announce a small increase in the Arts Council's present annual budget of £92m in the next few weeks. But the amount is likely to fall well short of the council's demands for £110m to correct what its chairman, Sir William Rees-Mogg, described as the serious underfunding of the arts.

Sir William said: "Many of the organizations supported by the council currently face very serious problems in maintaining their existence in the present restricted financial climate." But he refused to be drawn on how many might close if the Arts Council's target was not met.

The council expressed its concern over the threat to the arts posed by the Government's proposal to abolish the metropolitan authorities, which are an important source of subsidy. In a response to the Priestley Report on the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company, it said that there was no prospect whatever of business sponsorship growing to fill the gap.

"The number of organizations in desperate need of substantially increased funds is greater than ever before. Thus, in the field of opera, the Royal Opera House's funding problem is not unique but part of a general financial crisis," it said.

Unless more money could be found, English National Opera and other companies would have to suffer severe diminution of activity.

"In the field of drama, vitally important regional companies will be financially at risk; regional orchestras will be unable to escape widening budget deficits; the nation's dance companies will be imperilled; touring will have to be cut back impairing the viability of receiving theatres ..."

However, it now seems certain that the immediate financial crises of Covent Garden and the RSC will be resolved without handing the companies over to direct funding by Government, as Priestly recommeded. The Arts Council indicated yesterday that it was reluctantly willing to accept Government funds specifically earmarked for the two companies, for one year, in spite of the council's dislike of accepting grants for specific purposes.

BA freeze domestic air fares

By Michael Baily
Transport Editor

An indefinite fare freeze in British Airways' domestic routes, including the Super Shuttle to Glasgow and Edinburgh, was announced by Mr Colin Marshall the chief executive, yesterday.

BA domestic fares went up by 5 per cent last April, but the airline will now "hold them at their present level for as long as we possibly can," Mr Marshall said.

The freeze was possible because of improvements in productivity and substantial traffic gains on domestic routes, which expect to carry 3.5 million passengers this year, the airline said.

The staff has been cut by over a third, to 36,000 over the past three years, and trade unions have collaborated in exercises designed to cut jobs and introduce more flexible working practices on domestic routes, some of which might otherwise have been closed.

Pilots mow carried out ground-handling of the aircraft, and cabin staff dealt with passengers in terminals, practices unheard of five years ago, as part of a staff reduction from more than 400 to under 200 on the Highlands and Islands division. Similar joint management-staff studies were going on in other divisions.

● Britain and Europe could be totally dependent on flags-of-convenience shipping to carry its goods and raw materials by the end of the century, Mr John Prescott, the Labour spokesman on transport, said yesterday.

Such a prospect was strategically and economically unacceptable, he told a shipping conference of the socialist group of the European Parliament, and steps must be taken to prevent it even if they ran counter to the Treaty of Rome.

Computer exam idea for slow learners

Young people taking the examinations of the future may find themselves poring over questions posed by a microcomputer linked to a television screen, a government conference on mathematics for slow learners was told yesterday.

The possibility was suggested by Mr Derek Foxman, leader of a new three-year project set up by the National Foundation for Educational Research to devise graduated tests in mathematics for less able pupils.

"The possibility of using microcomputers for test admnistration will be considered", he told a meeting in London of mathematics advisers, academics, officials of the Department of Educaton and Science, and representatives of teachers' organizations and examination boards.

The project is one of three being funded by the department at a cost of £500,000 in response to the Cockcroft report on mathematics teaching, which found that less able children are ill-served by existing syllabuses

Mr Foxman said that the new tests would represent a clear break with the abstractions of traditional examination papers.

Instead, pupils would be assessed on their ability to do everyday tasks. For instance, they could be asked to plan a family outing which would involve using a timetable and working out how much could be spent on meals and fares.

The tests would be graduated and pupils would have to be proficient at one level before tackling a more difficult problem. The certificates awarded would seek to give potential employers a clear statement of a candidate's achievements.

The approach was endorsed by Mr Robert Dunn, the Under Secretary in charge of schools. If all children were to understand mathematics and show their confidence in the subject, teaching had to be more closely related to the needs of employment and working life, he said.

Science 'taster' courses for girls proposed

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Schools should introduce courses to try to interest girls in science, Lady Platt, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said yesterday.

They could be introduced in the third, fourth and fifth years of secondary schools to stop girls giving up science subjects at examination level. They were also being established in universities and colleges, Lady Platt said in a speech to Doncaster Institute of Higher Education yesterday.

Manchester University ran a physics "taster" course, Acton Technical College had one on electronics, and Bradford University provided a similar course in chemical engineering.

"We need more colleges throughout the country taking similar positive steps if there is to be a real breakthrough for girls and women leading them to seek careers in all areas of industry", Lady Platt said.

Westland Helicopters had produced a careers pack designed to persuade girls to take up trainee technician engineering posts with the company. "That type of approach is good, not only for the girls, but for the company too", she said.

The selling of Britain

Tourism gets harder-headed

By John Sansom

The selling of British tourism has been reorganized by the Government into a much more hard-headed affair with the appointment of Mr David Bluck as chairman of the British Tourist Authority with a mandate for change.

Without such a shake-up, many have argued, this successful industry would just carry on pumping "invisible" money into the Exchequer, getting little in return.

In future, the British Tourist Authority will be restricted to selling Britain overseas, and at the same time Mr Bluck will have responsibility for the English Tourist Board.

The BTA and the English, Scottish and Welsh tourist boards are also to become much more commmercial in their outlook, seeing their business more in terms of marketing a product rather than providing services.

A private equity fund is to be set up by City institutions early next year which would provide cash for important tourism, projects. The development of more imaginative schemes outside London – such as industrial archaeology – is likely to be encouraged.

The merger of BTA and ETB would save up to £500,000 a year. Economies will come from the sharing of offices and the cutting of duplication. There are also likely to be redundancies.

However tourism chiefs in Scotland and Wales fear that England might get more than its share of promotion abroad from the BTA, a feeling already reflected in criticism from Scottish and Welsh MPs.

Money is also to be spent on revitalizing some of the more traditional resorts. New sources of income will have to be found if a clash with local government spending cuts is to be avoided.

The industry's overall view of the reorganization is that it is fine so far as it goes but that the number of tourists and the revenue they bring cannot rise appreciably without some government concessions, such as a preferential VAT rate for tourist services.

In his last annual report Sir Henry Marking, who will retire five months early next March as chairman of the ETA, made a plea for that, pointing out that many EEC countries "recognize the importance of tourism earnings in their export endeavours", and have lower rates for hotels and restaurants.

The author is deputy editor of "Travel Trade Gazette".

Shoplifting charge dropped

A war heroine aged 83 walked free from a court in London yesterday after a chain store decided to drop a shoplifting charge against her in a private prosecution.

Mrs Joyce Murchie, a widow, of Redcliffe Road, West Brompton, was a member of the Special Operations Executive.

She was accused of stealing a £2.99 beret from the Miss Selfridge boutique in Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, on October 19.

But Mr Brian Stalk, for the prosecution, told Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court that the store had decided not to offer any evidence against her. "She is a lady of 83, of previous good character and the goods alleged involved are small", Mr Stalk said.

Counter to legion disease

A British company said yesterday that it had found a chemical agent which will kill the bacteria responsible for legionnaire's disease, a severe form of pneumonia.

Houseman Ltd, of Slough, Berkshire, water treatment specialists, said it has patented an agent, or biocide, to combat the water-born bacteria. It could be used in hospitals, hotels, offices and factories.

The disease was first identified seven years ago when 29 people died who had attended an American Legion convention in Philadelphia. Hundreds of cases have since been reported

Man in the News

Tough nut to oversee big shake-up

By Mark Rosselli

Mr Duncan Bluck has been given a tough nut to crack as the man named on Tuesday as Britains next tourism chief.

His brief is to rationalize the two agencies, possibly with a merger, and to produce administrative savings while at the same time continuing to supply the help and guidance that has made tourism Britain's most successful growth industry in the past two decades.

Fortunately, Mr Bluck is something of a tough nut himself, according to Mr Norman Lamont, the Minister of State for Industry with responsibility for tourism.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Mr Lamont said he had been looking for a hard-headed and successful man from outside the British tourism industry, who could dispassionately review the work of the two agencies.

"What we wanted was a tough businessman who would be able to merge these organizations and make sure some of the economies were realized."

Mr Bluck: Outsider with impressive record.

He found one in Mr Bluck, aged 56. He was educated at Taunton School, he served with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from 1944 to 1947, joined John Swire and Sons in 1948, and gradually rose to eminence after working in Japan, Thailand and the Caribbean.

Since 1981 he has been chairman of John Swire and Sons (Hongkong) Ltd, Swire Pacific Ltd, Swire Properties Ltd, and Cathay Pacific Airways.

All have done remarkably well since he took over. Swire Pacific, for example, is the fourth largest company in Hongkong with interests in transport (including aviation), property and industry. Last year net profit after tax was £81m, on a turnover of £675m.

Sir Henry Marking, the retiring chairman of the BTA, said: "He is a likeable man with a very pleasant manner, and I think he is a very good choice.

"First of all, he is used to running big business, so he will be a good manager. He is a man with lots of commonsense and experience – not only of business. You want somebody who can take a very broad view.

Mock hanging inquiry launched

Devon Education Authority started an investigation yesterday into the mock hanging of a boy aged 15 from a tree in the grounds of his school, Tavistock comprehensive school, west Devon.

The inquiry comes after reports that Darren Wixon was photographed with a hangman's rope around his neck in a special projects exercise supervised by his art teacher.

Doctor's delay

Magistrates at Maldon, Essex, yesterday further adjourned the hearing of a drink-driving charge against Dr Robert Jones, of Coggeshall, Essex, until December 14. Dr Jones, aged 41, is also accused of careless driving.

Lee evidence

Bruce Lee, who is appealing against his 1981 conviction for the manslaughter of 26 people in 11 cases of arson, is due to give evidence for the first time in a court today.

PARLIAMENT November 23 1983

Print union told to observe law

NGA DISPUTE

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, told the Commons that the conduct seen on the mass picket of the Stockport Messenger Group of Newspapers plant at Warrington the previous night had no place in industrial relations in this country. The law must be observed, he said.

The violence was also deplored by Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, who warned that the dispute between the newspaper group and the National Graphical Association could spread rapidly.

In his statement, Mr King reminded the House that there had been a dispute over the past year between the Stockport Messenger Group of Newspapers and the National Graphical Association in connection with the establishment of closed shop agreements at the firm's subsidies at Warrington and Bury.

As a result of action taken by the union during the dispute, the Messenger Group sought an injuction against the union in the High Court. The injuction was granted requiring the union to desist from organising unlawful industrial action.

The court subsequently found that the injunction was not being observed and imposed a fine of £50,000 on the NGA for breach of that injuction.

The fine has not be paid (he said) and I understand that the High Court has now directed that it wishes to deal with the non-payment of the fine on Friday of this week.

There have been intermittent incidents of intimidatory picketing at different plants culminating in the mass picket at Warrington last night. One policemen was seriously injured. I understand a number of arrests have been made.

Criminal charges have already been brought against those involved in earlier incidents and further charges may be made against those arrested last night.

In connexion with the substance of the dispute the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service has already been involved in seeking to assist the parties to a resolution of this dispute. I understand that the conciliation service are seeking to arrange a further meeting of the parties very shortly.

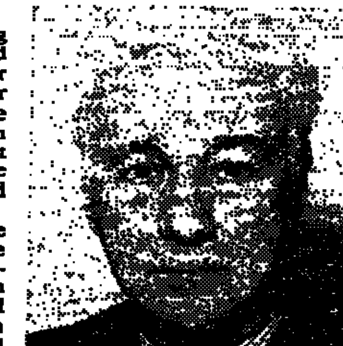
Whatever the arguments in relation to the dispute, I hope that all sides of the House will join with me in deploring the disgraceful behaviour that occured at Warrington last night, to reaffirm that such conduct has no place in industrial relations in this country, and that the law must be observed.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C), who raised the issue by a private notice question, said workers were offered the right to join or not join the NGA. The union had a chance to put their case and after a secret ballot the workers decided they did not want to join this union.

The union have now accepted this particular point and the point of difference seems to be the re-employment of the six people who withdrew their labour. On Sunday there was a 13 hour meeting between the two parties and Acas.

The employees in this organization are not happy to have these people back because for 20 weeks they have suffered harassment and intimidation from these people and their union bully boys.

Why did we enact the 1982 Employment Act if it is to be ignored by people like this? I hope the Government will make its position clear. Here we have a small firm being intimidated by a union.



Montgomery: Harassment and intimidation.

Mr King: Had it not been for the 1982 Act, there would have been no recourse for the Stockport Messenger Group of Newspapers against the original picketing and secondary picketing that took place and the attempts to breach their contracts which were part of the substance of the complaint to the court against which the injunction was granted.

Whatever be the system of law, it has been accepted by successive parties when in government that picketing is only lawful when it is peacefully conducted, that intimidation and obstruction are criminal offences and the law must be observed.

Mr Smith: A political inspired private notice question of this kind does not really help the solution of a sensitive industrial dispute.

Conservative MPs interrupted Mr Smith frequently forcing him to reply that those who proclaimed the rule of law should listen to criticism in reasonable silence.

We deplore violence (Mr Smith said) and extend our sympathies to anybody who is affected by it. But will Mr King recognize that the NGA issued a leaflet to those involved in the dispute which said: "On behalf of the organizing committee, it is requested that the demonstration remains peaceful and you are asked not to attack the building or be provoked into using violence."

This is an extremely serious dispute with the potential for spreading quite rapidly throughout this sector of British industry. It is one within the area of settlement because what is at stake is no more than the jobs of the six NGA members dismissed by Mr Shah.

Mr King should revive the old Ministry of Labour tradition of putting his weight behind conciliation and the resolution of the dispute as quickly as possible.

Mr King: I hope the further meeting that Acas are seeking to arrange may be helpful in resolving the core of this dispute.

I hope Mr Smith was not equivocating in any way on what I took to be his categoric denial of *violent picketing. The TUC have* issued a statement condemning the use of violence. I hope Mr Smith will use his good offices and that of his friends to ensure every effort is made to prevent any recurrence of an incident of this kind.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab): This is not in the constituency of Mr Montgomery who is interfering in my constituency. The bully boy is the employers in this case because he brought in a paramilitary army of thugs with dogs and that inflamed passions. That is the reason violence occurred.

There could have been an agreement; he has admitted the union has been flexible and the TUC has been backing the union in this particular dispute. If the employer would not victimize these men but give them reinstatement, the dispute could be over tomorrow.

Mr King: This company is in three constituencies. I am not going to enter into the merits of this dispute, which is a matter to be discused by Acas.

It is distressing that he could get to his feet and not utter a single word of criticism about the scenes of violence which took place and which have no part in proper industrial relations in this country.

Sir Kenneth Lewis (Stamford and Spalding, C): Many of those *picketing at the factory gate* came from other parts of the country and were members of other unions, in fairness to the NGA, and it is against the law they should do that.

Mr King: Since the company concerned only employs 120 people, a picket of 1,000 or more must be in total breach of the present law. It is well known and accepted by all parties and all governments that intimidation and obstruction are criminal offences and have no place in peaceful picketing.

Mr Ronald Deighton (Newham North East, Lab): We are dealing with an employer who reneges on agreements and the NGA has bent over backwards in this case to the extent that it accepts that employers at Bury and Warrington stay in their jobs and only new employees will be members of the union.

Sevem members of the NUJ who had taken inbdustrial action have been taken back by the employer, but the six members of the NGA he has refused to take back – that is the sole issue in dispute.

It would be a pity to get an industrial Armageddon over six men. Not only will be bad for industrial relations but I am afraid the state will be biting off more than it can chew.

Sir Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington,): In a true democracy the law and the will of parliament which passes the law must be the end of the road.

Mr King: That is what I have been seeking to reinforce today because trade unions enjot certain rights and privileges of immunity under the law and which are protected by the law. It is for as much in their interests that the law is observed by others as it is for them to insist that *their members* sould observe the law.

I trust that the TUC, haveing come out with a condemnation of violent behaviour, will take every positive step to ensure that no such events occur again.

Mr Robert Parry (Liverpool, Riverside, Lab): I had a long meeting last Saturday with the full-time secretary and officials of the NGA when there were strong ellegations about police brutality against the pickets.

A number of pickets have suffered head and leg injuries and concussion. One person has a fractured shoulder bone. Will he ask the Home Secretary to have words with the Cheshire Police for a cooling down of tempers.

The NGA regret the injury to a police officer in the early hours of this morning. If action is not taken to cool this down, it will turn out to be the Grunwick of the north.

Mr King: If there are complaints, there is a proper procedure which should be observed because nobody should condone that. Anything Mr Parry can do to discourage the assembly of pickets, he should becanse the assembly of nearly 1,000 outside the Warrington plant is hardly a contribution cooling down the situation.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Get some more there.

Mr Alistair Burt (Bury, North, C): My constituents working on the Messenger newpapers voted on a closed shop a few weeks ago and who voted unanimously against, have pickets at their doors now as a consequence.

Leighton: NGA has bent over backwards

The sould call off its threat to my constituents' livelihood, look after its own business and leave by constituents alone.

Mr King: I am aware of reports of ballots in both plants and reports which have said that the majority was against membership of the NGA. That is part of the background to the dispute. My interest in the matter is to see that the dispute about recognition or the closed shop issue is resolved in a proper way.

I am not prepared to condone and neither will the Government illegal or intimidating picketing.

Mr Martin O'Neill (Clackmannan, Lab): My union, the NGA, regrets *that anyone has been injured in the* dispute but also recognizes that the TUC this morning has supported the NGA in the core issue – victimization of the six former members of staff Mr Shah has refused to reinstate. The trade union movement would greatly appreciate it if Mr King would ensure that his officials acted as constructively as possible in securing conciliation of the dispute.

Mr King: Acas, which is independent, is seeking a settlement. I hope that Mr O'Neill will use his good offices in ensuring that the NGA, pursuing an industrial dispute, as it is entitled to do, will do it within the law.

● After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords, the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, said: Acas has a role but nothing Acas can do can *prevail against those who not only* deliberately break the law but continue to encourage their members to do so. This is unforgivable and has no place in any credible industrial relations system.

The NGA, he said, had a particularly bad record in seeking to coerce employees in joining trade unions against their will.

The employees of the Messenger's (he added) were content not to proceed with the closed shop arrangements and the people creating the incidents, which we all regret so much, came in from outside.

MPs approve Bridge St development

Plans for the first phase of redevelopment of the Bridge Street site, Westminster, as parliamentary buildings were approved by the Commons early today (Tuesday). Total cost of the redevelopment will be £23m and take about five years.

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, explained the recommendations of the Select Committee on Services which build on proposals by Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy, and the Casson Conner Partnership for the site bounded by Parliament Street, Derby Gate, Cannon Row and Bridge Street.

He said that less than one third of MPs, other than ministers, had an office to themselves, and still fewer had offices within the Palace of Westminster.

Britain sees no justification for walk-out by Soviet Union

DISARMAMENT

The Government regretted the decision of the Soviet Union to withdraw from the intermediate nuclear forces talks in Geneva and could see no justification for it, **Mr Richard Luce**, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs said in a statement to the Commons.

He said that the Russians might seek to justify their interruption of the talks by the final preparation for initial western INF deployment. But the West had remained at the conference table while the Soviet Union had increased its own deployment of SS20s by more than 40 per cent.

The Nato alliance (he continued) has made its first priority the achievement of a balanced and verifiable agreement to reduce and if possible eliminate these weapons worldwide. At the same time we have made it clear that until such an agreement can be attained the Alliance will proceed in accordance with its decision of 1979 to work towards a balance which would safeguard western security.

We will not be deflected from achieving the first stage of this objective by the end of this year.

But I wish to emphasize that the Alliance remains ready to halt or reverse at any time the deployment of the missiles if only we can secure an agreement with the Soviet Union which would allow us to do so. The achievement of such an agreement remains our unshakable objective. The Alliance will spare no effort to secure it.

We remain convinced that an agreement is possible and that it remains in the interests of East and West that the negotiations should resume at the earliest possible date. We therefore urge the Soviet Union to demonstrate an equally sincere commitment to arms control by returning to the negotiating table.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said the statement was disturbing. The British Government had been arguing for four years that the moment the West began to deploy cruise and Pershing missiles, agreement would be reached in the disarmament talks.

It is clear (he continued) that it could not have been more wrong. In fact, as the Soviet Government frequently warned, it has produced a breakdown in the talks. The minister suggests that responsibility for the breakdown lies exclusively with the Soviet Government. But the British Government's refusal to allow its Polaris force to be included in the balance has been a major obstacle to the talks until last week. Only last week the Soviet Government at the last moment offered not to include British and French nuclear forces in the balance and to reduce the number of its SS20s to half those deployed in 1979, and the number of warheads to well under half.

How can Mr Luce possibly justify western governments rejecting this offer out of hand and leaking the proposal? This was a repetition of what they did with a similar proposal made after the so-called walk in the woods a few months ago.

Does Mr Luce really believe that this treatment of serious proposals by the Soviet Government is consistent with the sincere negotiations on disarmament to which western governments committed themselves in December 1979?

The decision to deploy cruise and Pershing is opposed by a substantial majority of opinion in both Britain and Germany, the two countries so far involved, and has done more to damage public support for the Nato alliance than any other action in the last 34 years.

Will the Government now insist that the United States Government should offer not to deploy any more missiles if the Soviet Union will agree to resume the talks and that the West should than seek to take the latest Soviet offer as a starting point in renewed negotiations which even at this last moment might save us from an acceleration and an escalation of a nuclear arms race which can only decrease the security of the British people and present a great threat to the prospects for peace in the world?

Mr Luce said everyone wated an end to the arms race.

But (he said) what I find surprising coming from Mr Healey is that he lays the responsibility on the western world for this morning's development and ignores the essential facts.

Since 1979 the number of SS20s has trebled. Since 1981 they have increased by 40 per cent. They are *still increasing* at an average rate of one a week. They threaten our national security.

Mr Healey should know from his wealth of experience that the prime duty of ministers and governments is the security of this nation. I am also surprised by his comments about the UK and French strategic nuclear forces because he knows we are not talking about like with like. Whatever proposals the Russians have put forward they still wish to retain a monopoly of weapons in the intermediate nuclear field, which poses a threat to our security.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton Pavilion, C): Far from being scared by the Soviet walk-out in the talks, most people, especially in this country and Germany, will sleep more safely and securely in their beds now that we know the Soviet monopoly in these weapons is ending and some equilibrium is, though slowly, being restored.

Mr Luce: It is essential for the Soviet Union to understand that the resolution of Britain and other western governments is to ensure the safety of our people. But allied to that is a genuine desire to seek an agreement which leads to a broad balance in weapons.

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP (Plymouth, Devonport): For similar reasons and with some of the similar hesitation as Helmut Schmidt, I believe Nato has no other alternative other than continuing with the first stage of deployment.

Would the foreign ministers of Nato countries now meet and consider most seriously the possibility of declaring a freeze on the first stage deployment when they become operational, the 41 missiles, to allow time for the Soviet Union to reconsider its position and go back into negotiations and to hold a freeze while there is any chance the Soviet Union will negotiate a substantial reduction of SS20s?

Mr Luce: We have no alternative but to see deployment. We should be ready at any moment to respond to any possibility of halting or reversing this if we can get some genuine progress in discussions, and the sooner we resume the better.

There is shortly to be a discussion at Nato level and all these matters can be assessed in the light of what has happened this morning.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab): Is it not time for us to consider very seriously the proposition half put forward that this serious decision by the Soviet Union to withdraw does provide the opportunity for a pause and reflection and perhaps for a new forum in which these matters can be discussed?

Should it not be the case that British and French weapons should be included either in one set of negotiations or the other or, if they are brought together, they can be put on the table and be counted.

I do not say we should destroy our own weapons. The Soviet Union could say these weapons are *directed* against them, whether they crawl, swim or fly, and should therefore be counted in.

We should not seek to condemn Moscow. Clement Attlee's old dictum was do not walk out, you have only got to walk back some time. That, surely, is the position the Soviet Union will find themselves in because is it not the case we cannot accept a Soviet Union veto on the deployment of US nuclear weapons in Europe.

Once that fact is accepted by the Soviet Union, is it not possible to reach agreement in this matter where the issues that divide us are getting narrower the whole time. Therefore, although this breakdown is serious, it provides us with an opportunity for beginning negotiations not in public but in private in order to reach agreement.

Mr Luce: I entirely agree that discussions in private is the only sensible way to proceed. I wish other people on his side of the House would reflect his view that it is unacceptable to have a Soviet veto over US and western policies.

No one must be in any doubt about our sense of resolution in the western world with regard to the twin track policy.

Circular might be revised

GREEN BELT

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, is considering wheter it would be right to issue a second draft circular on green belt policy to local authorities as his original has been widely misunderstood.

Indicating this during Commons questions, declared that he was as committed as any of his predecessors to preserving a strong green belt policy.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C) told him there was deep concern in district and county about the particularly vulnerable area of the green belt in North Worcestershire, subject to attack from neighbouring authorities making proposals in the structural plans for development in the area to the calling in of an application for development on the grounds that more houses rather than less should be built in the green belt.

Mr Jenkin: I have made it abundantly clear that the draft cirlular is intended to stregthen and not weaken the green belt policy. I have taken careful note of the many comments made and I recognize the anxieties.

I am considering whether it would be right to issue a second draft so as to leave it in no doubt *whatever that the Government is* committed to a strong green belt policy.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP): On of the most effective ways to reduce pressure on the green belt would be to encourage more public and private investment in our cities to improve the quality of life there and, therefore, reduce pressure on people to seek a better envionment beyond the city limits.

Mr Jenkin: I entirely agree and we are doing it. I hope he will visit the enormous success of the London Docklands Development Corporation where, between 1975 and 1982, two houses were built for sale and where they are now being built in thousands and sold before they even get up to the footings.

This is one of the most successful examples of inner city regeneration and I hope he will take the trouble to visit it and perhaps advise his local councils to get on with the same sort of thing.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C): The problem is not so much his underlying intentions but the ambiguity of the original circular over the whole concept of the green belt.

Will he take that into account in anyb redrafting and also accept that in looking at pressure on housing in the South East, his priority should be to look to the east side of Greater London were there is room for a whole new city rather than allow additional pressures to develop on the green belt.

Mr Jenkin: I accept his criticisms because my original draft was clearly widely misunderstood, I think it might be sensible to issue a second draft so as to make it abundantly clear.

It is our intention to shift some of the pressure from the west of London into the areas east of London where there is ample room for development.

Sir Dudley Smith (Worwick and Leamington, C): There are good reasons why there should be a relaxtion of building in some areas but at the same time there are grave doubts about any erosion of the green belt. His announcement today will be welcome but will he make it clear there is no intention to erode the green belt as we have known it.

Mr Jenkin: I am very happy to give that specific expression of our intention.

Government warned not to increase taxes

HOUSE OF LORDS

From the point of view of the creation of wealth as from that of the whole policy of the Government, to increase taxes would by a most unfortunate step to take, **Lord Boyd-Carpenter** (C) said in opening a Lords debate on the urgent need to liberate from the control of Government and other public bodies more of the resources required for wealth creation and to diminish the disinentive effects of work and invesment of high taxation levels.

When you consider (he went on) that a man of substantial earnings who has certain savings is paying tax at the rate of 75 per cent on some part of his income one cannot forbear the comment that taxation at that rate is confiscation. I am rather surprised that those bodies who interest themselves in human rights have not made that point.

They all wanted to see a prosperous, wealthy country where resources and incomes rose year by year, inflation was checked, and, so far as human happiness depended upon material things, human happiness was increased. That purpose was best served by the creation of wealth and by concentrating on measures which stimulated the creation of wealth.

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council said economic recovery had been under way since early 1981. Growth this year was likely to be up 3 per cent and Britain was growing faster than any other country in the European Community.

As the economy recovered the job market was also beginning to recover. Vacancies were continuing to rise. Unemployment was worrying but was now levelling out.

The Government's economic objective (he continued) is to achieve sustainable non-inflationary growth. The first essential is to continue our sound money policies and make further progress against inflation. This means keeping to our medium-term financial strategy and maintaining downward pressure on Government borrowing.

Equally important was to eccourage enterprise where it really mattered in the market place. This meant increasing incentives, exposing more of the economy to the forces of competition and removing obstacles to the operation of the free market.

Basic success in reducing the burden of taxation could only be achieved through firm control of public spending. So often in the past they had seen the relentless tendency of public expenditure to creep upwards. Last year that process was halted. For the first time in years the Government's spending plans were within the level already set.

The Government's main objective was to promote competition and increase efficiency. The prime beneficiaries would be the economy and the consumer.

Lord Barnett, for the Opposition, said opportunities for legitimate tax avoidance abounded in small expanding firms and the tax system did not in any way prevent successful small firms from making large sums of money.

The tax that was a big disincentive was at the lowest levels of income – the poverty trap and unemployment trap level. There was no doubt that tax at those levels was far higher than at the other end of the income tax scale.

The black economy and moonlighting had been growing. While this was understandable it went a long way to undermine the very fabric of a civilized society.

Lord Maude of Stratford-upon-Avon (C), in a maiden speech, said it was salutary to consider from what small beginnings some of today's great enterprised sprang.

It was doubtful whether many of them would have gotr off the ground if they had to contend weith the complications, regulations, restrictions anf Government-imposed costs which confronted the small businessman today. the need for action was obvious. He hoped the Government would rise to this challenge and soon.

Timetable for museum

Assuming the building work proceeded on the time-table envisaged, the Theatre Museum's Covent Garden premises should be ready to be opened to the public during 1986 or early 1987, the **Earl of Gowrie**, Minister for the Arts, told the House of Lords. He hoped it would be possible to let the building contracts very shortly.

Rate-capping

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, said during Commons questions that he hoped to introduce before Christmas the legislation to implement his proposals on rate-capping.

Fowler to chair inquiry into pensions

PENSIONS

More than seven million people were wholly dependent on supplementary means tested benefit for their survival and two thirds of pensioners were living in poverty or on its margins, **Mr Michael Meacher**, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said in the Commons.

Opening a debate on pensioners' loss of purchasing power, moved a motion regretting that this week's pension uprating was below the current rate of inflation and calling on the Government to reverse its damaging and increasingly discredited economic policies, which were depriving pensioners of deserved higher living standards.

He said that the prime indication of poverty for millions of pensioners was that they were increasingly being forced to choose between food and heating.

The pensioners this Christmas time, this year (he said) are getting a bum deal.

He accepted that the Tory Party was sincere in saying it wanted pensioners to enjoy higher living standards. But Labour had actually achieved this. Had Labour's method of uprating for pensions been preserved a single person's pension would taday be £2.95 higher and the married person's pension £4.65 higher.

Pensioners had been robbed of about £2,000m because of the Government's shabby manoeuvering over the last four years.

The earnings-related pension benefits scheme introduced by the Labour Government in 1975 had been the best deal the pensioners had ever had. But in the Government's lust for cuts, this excellent scheme was subject to unspecified threats. People were entitled to what they had contracted for and what they had paid for.

This scheme (he said) is a solemn contract between generations and will the minister give an unequivocal public commitment he will take his clammy hands off it?

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, moved the Government amendment congratulating the Government for successive increases in retirement pensions which had increased the purchasing power of nine million pensioners since 1978-79; recognized the success of Government economic policies in reducing and controlling inflation and noting that the greatest single threat to the security, savings and living standards of pensioners would be the reversal of those policies.

Although occupational pensions matters were generally negotiated between and financed by employers and employees the Government had a role to play. Most employees in occupational schemes had no option but to join the scheme as part of their contract of service. The Government could not turn a blind eye to any situation in which members might find themselves joining schemes with apparently *favourable terms only to find the* unfairnes of those terms should they later leave that job.

Basically that was the position of the early leavers. The problem was that someone who left a scheme and went to another job often left behind him a pension entitlement, but that entitlement was frozen until the age of retirement.

Alternatively if he transferred his pensions then the transfer value also reflected the frozen rights. That position could not be justified.

The Government had decided that it would be right to legislate at the next suitable opportunity. The legislative changes they proposed would be broadly on lines of the Occupational Pensions Board majority recommendation. They would require schemes to revalue pension rights of future early leavers up to the time when they took their pension by 5 per cent a year or if prices rose by less than 5 per cent, by that amount.

The Government believed it was the right time to set up a special inquiry into provision for retirement which he would himself be chairing and which would study the future development, adequacy and costs of state, occupational and private provision for retirement in the United Kingdom, including the portability of pension rights.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on motion to approve the Chancellor of the Excehequer's Autumn Statement. **Lords (3):** Debate on the shipping industry. Motion on milk regulations.

The Restrictive Trade Practices (Stock Exchange) Bill was read a second time in the Commons late last night by 343 votes to 202 – Government majority, 141.

Housing benefit rule change

Tenants face further aid cut

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of tenants on below average income living in high-rent housing in London and elsewhere are to suffer a further cut in housing benefit next April from a little noticed change in the regulations announced last week by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

At present, tenants in private, council and housing association properties in 42 local authorities receive extra housing benefit where average rents are higher than the national average.

Tenants qualify where the present average council rent is more than £16.09 and where private and housing association rents are more than £17.65. But those qualifying figures are to be raised by £1.32 a week and £2.30 respectively.

The effect of the change will be that several local authorities will cease to qualify. The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that it could not immediately give figures on how many authorities would cease to qualify, how many people would be affected or how much would be saved.

Mr Nick Raynsford, director of the London Housing Aid Centre, said: "This will add a fourth cut in housing benefit for some families on top of the other changes."

The combined changes would mean a loss of £4.21 a week for a family with four children on £145 a week paying £19 a week rent in a west London flat, the centre said, and £4.49 a week for a single parent with two children paying £19.75 a week rent from a weekly income of £120.

The Department of Health and Social Security argues that when the scheme was introduced in 1972, average rents had to be 150 per cent over the national threshold for local authorities to qualify. That figure has declined to between 115 and 120 per cent, and the change will raise to 130 per cent.

Use of political appointees attacked

Sir Douglass Wass, former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, said last night that governments would be badly damaged if senior Civil Service posts were filled by political appointees.

In the third of the 1983 BBC Reith Lectures, Sir Douglas said that such a patronage system "would lead to the sort of administrative chaos which so often marks a new administration in the United States". It would also deter the best and brightest from applying for a permanent career in the Civil Service.

Ministers would be reinforced in their desire to achieve a quick pay-off by concentrating on short-term change at the expense of necessary long-term reforms. He said he had seen "many examples of ministerial indifference"

Sir Douglas admitted it was impossible for a career civil servant to be completely neutral about policy. In extreme circumstances an official should resign rather than implement actions "which are either unlawful, unconstitutional, or which involve some great affront to human values".

Homing in on a dream

Mr Danny Challis, (above) of Wimborne, Dorset, has been given a Manpower Services Commission grant of £40 a week to breed pedigree racing pigeons.

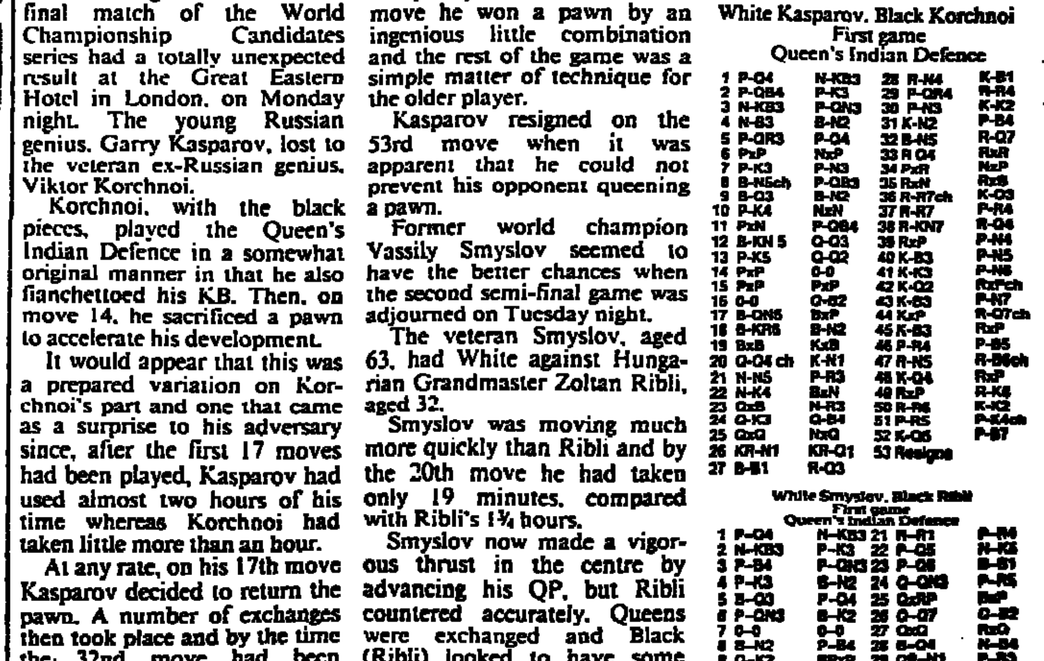
"It's an absolute gift", he said yesterday. "I couldn't have asked for anything better. I have been racing pigeons all my life and have always wanted to set up in business on my own."

Two years ago Mr Challis sold a top pedigree racer, Shy Lass, for £4,250. In the photograph he is holding Moneypacker, worth £2,000

"Most of my pigeons have racer offspring and I expect that to continue," he said.

Surprise defeat for Kasparov

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent



The first game in the semi-final match of the World Championship Candidates series had a totally unexpected result at the Great Eastern Hotel in London, on Monday night. The young Russian genius, Garry Kasparov, lost to the veteran ex-Russian genius, Viktor Korchnoi.

Korchnoi, with the black pieces, played the Queen's Indian Defence in a somewhat original manner in that he also fianchettoed his KB. Then, on move 14, he sacrificed a pawn to accelerate his development.

It would appear that this was a prepared variation on Korchnoi's part and one that came as a surprise to his adversary since, after the first 17 moves had been played, Kasparov had used almost two hours of his time whereas Korchnoi had taken little more than an hour.

At any rate, on his 17th move Kasparov decided to return the pawn. A number of exchanges then took place and by the time the 32nd move had been reached Kasparov was in acute time trouble. The players were playing at the normal international rate of 40 moves in 2½ hours and with eight more moves to make Kasparov had only a little over a minute left.

Korchnoi, on the other hand, had plenty of time. On his 34th move he won a pawn by an ingenious little combination and the rest of the game was a simple matter of technique for the older player.

Kasparov resigned on the 53rd move when it was apparent that he could not prevent his opponent queening a pawn.

Former world champion Vassily Smyslov seemed to have the better chances when the second semi-final game was adjourned on Tuesday night.

The veteran Smyslov, aged 63, had White against Hungarian Grandmaster Zoltan Ribli, aged 32.

Smyslov was moving much more quickly than Ribli and by the 20th move he had taken only 19 minutes, compared with Ribli's 1¾ hours.

Smyslov now made a vigorous thrust in the centre by advancing his QP, but Ribli countered accurately. Queens were exchanged and Black (Ribli) looked to have some advantage.

However, Ribli expended too much time over ensuing moves and under the pressure of time allowed Smyslov to win a pawn, although Ribli managed to recover his pawn before the game was adjourned

Semi-final
White Kasparov. Black Korchnoi
First game
Queen's Indian Defence

1	P-Q4	N-KB3	28	R-N4	K-B1
2	P-QB4	P-K3	29	P-QR4	R-R4
3	N-KB3	P-QN3	30	P-N3	K-K2
4	N-B3	B-N2	31	K-N2	P-B4
5	P-QR3	P-Q4	32	B-N5	R-Q7
6	PxP	NxP	33	R-Q4	RxR
7	P-K3	P-N3	34	PxR	NxP
8	B-N5ch	P-QB3	35	RxN	RxB
9	B-Q3	B-N2	36	R-R7ch	K-Q3
10	P-K4	NxN	37	R-R7	P-R4
11	PxN	P-QB4	38	R-KN7	R-Q4
12	B-KN5	Q-Q3	39	RxP	P-N4
13	P-K5	Q-Q2	40	K-B3	P-N5
14	PxP	0-0	41	K-K3	P-N6
15	PxP	PxP	42	K-Q2	RxPch
16	0-0	Q-B2	43	K-B3	P-N7
17	B-QN5	BxP	44	KxP	R-Q7ch
18	B-KR6	B-N2	45	K-B3	RxP
19	BxB	KxB	46	P-R4	P-B5
20	Q-Q4 ch	K-N1	47	R-N5	R-B6ch
21	N-N5	P-R3	48	K-Q4	RxP
22	N-K4	BxN	49	RxP	R-K6
23	QxB	N-R3	50	R-R6	K-K2
24	Q-K3	Q-B4	51	P-R5	P-K4ch
25	QxQ	NxQ	52	K-Q5	P-B7
26	KR-N1	KR-Q1	53	Resigns	
27	B-B1	R-Q3			

White Smyslov. Black Ribli
First game
Queen's Indian Defence

1	P-Q4	N-KB3	21	R-R1	P-R4
2	N-KB3	P-K3	22	P-Q5	N-K4
3	P-B4	P-QN3	23	P-Q6	B-B1
4	P-K3	B-N2	24	Q-QN3	P-R5
5	B-Q3	P-Q4	25	QxRP	BxP
6	P-QN3	B-K2	26	Q-Q7	Q-B2
7	0-0	0-0	27	QxQ	RxQ
8	B-N2	P-B4	28	B-Q4	N-B4
9	Q-K2	BPxP	29	QR-N1	P-B3
10	KPxP	N-B3	30	BxN	BxB
11	QN-Q2	R-B1	31	N-Q7	R-K7
12	QR-B1	R-K1	32	N-Q4	RxRP
13	KR-Q1	B-B1	33	NxB	PxN
14	P-KR3	P-N3	34	N-K6	R-K2
15	Q-K3	B-N2	35	R-N8	R-R1
16	N-K5	PxP	36	NxP	B-K5
17	PxP	N-K2	37	RxP	R-QB2
18	N(Q2)-B3	N-B4	38	N-K6	RxP
19	BxN	KPxB	39	R-Q7	R-B3
20	Q-R3	B-KR3	40	P-B3	B-B7
			41	P-R4	adj.

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The walkout at Geneva

Pershings arrive in Germany

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Within hours of the Bundestag's decisive vote to start deployment, the first parts of the American Pershing-2 missiles began arriving in West Germany, the government spokesman confirmed yesterday.

At the same time he expressed Bonn's deep regret that the Russians had broken off the Geneva talks, and said Moscow alone bore responsibility for this unilateral step. The Government hoped that negotiations would be resumed nevertheless, and would do all it could to bring the Soviet negotiators back to the table.

Bonn has refused to say how many missiles are now on their way across the Atlantic or where they will be based. But it is reliably assumed they will land at Ramstein, the US Air Force headquarters and the largest military airbase in Western Europe, and will then be transported by helicopter to Mutlangen, the US Army base at Schwäbish Gmünd, east of Stuttgart, where they will replace a battery of older Pershing-1 missiles.

Initially only one battery of nine missiles is due to come here, brought over in sections with the accompanying support equipment, and their installation will be completed by the end of the year. They will not be immediately armed for operational use while the Americans wait to assess the Soviet reaction. According to the 1979 Nato decision. Altogether 108 Pershing-2 missiles are due to be deployed by 1986.

Anti-nuclear demonstrators were yesterday preparing for large demonstrations outside American bases in southern Germany. Barbed wire barricades were being erected to reinforce security at Mutlangen. At Ramstein nine journalists who penetrated the closed military area were arrested. Local peace movements were planning protest actions.

As soon as the Bundestag vote was announced on Tuesday night, (the Government won by a predicted majority of 286 to 226). Herr Manfred Wörner, the Defence Minister, telephoned Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence.

The bitterly divisive debate, seen by the press and commentators as being of historic importance for German security policy and the future of the Social Democratic Party, ended late in the evening with votes on three separate motions. That of the Greens was overwhelmingly rejected, with only the 28 Green deputies voting for it. The SPD motion, which rejected deployment, was also defeaid though 25 SPD members and 14 Greens abstained. Among the abstentions was former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The motion that counted, however, was the one put forward by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition, which all the opposition parties including disgruntled members of the SPD, rejected. Herr Schmidt had announced beforehand that he would not support the Chancellor because he had not done enough to force a compromise on Moscow and Washington. The single abstention on this motion was of a Free Democrat, not as reported on Wednesday of Herr Schmidt.

● *MOSCOW:* Russia yesterday said Bonn had "Crossed the Rubicon", but gave no firm indication of whether the Soviet walkout at Geneva was permanent or temporary (Richard Owen writes). Soviet comment was relatively low key, leading some diplomats to support President Reagan's view that the Russians will return.

Others were pessimistic, noting that the Russians had not changed their stand at the eleventh hour and were unlikely to do so now that cruise was in Britain and Pershing 2s were arriving in West Germany.

The walkout was announced by Tss in a matter-of-fact statement which was not given prominence in the media. It said a regular meeting of the Intermediate Nuclear talks had been held and added: "During the meeting the Soviet delegation announced the discontinuation of the present round of talks without setting any date for their resumption".

Some diplomats saw the use of the phrase "present talks" as a hopeful sign. President Andropov used e same term in his October 26 statement, when he hinted Russia would abandon the "present talks' once deployment of a new Nato weapons had taken place. It had become clear in recent days that for Soviet officials "deployment" meant a firm decision to base Pershing 2s in West Germany rather than the arrival of cruise missiles in Britain, seen by Moscow as a lesser threat.

A Tass commentary said the Bundestag vote was against the will of the German people and "obedient to Washington's will". The decision was sinister and legally dubious, and would make peace in Europe more fragile.

Tass quoted President Andropov as saying that Russia would make a "proper response to any attempt to disrupt the existing military strategic balance" but did not spell this out.

● **Washington:** The US semed determined yesterday to avoid the impression that the Soviet walkout had provoked a crisis in East- West relations (Nicholas Ashford writes).

One senior Administration official said the Soviet action should not be regarded as a walkout but simply as "a recession" in which no date had been fixed for a resumption of the talks.

US negotiators would remain in Geneva in the hope that Moscow would eventually decide to return to the negotiating table.

President Reagan expressed disappointment at the walkout but said he was not suprised. "I cannot believe the walkout is permanent", he said before leaving Washington to spend the Thanksgiving holiday at his ranch in California.

"We will be ready to continue whenever they are ready to come back".

Leading article, page 13

Bonn vote ended Soviet hopes

From Ian Murray
Brussels

At Nato headquarters in Brussels, the walkout by Soviet negotiators was seen as an admission that the Kremlin had lost the first round of the propaganda battle.

With the *Bundestag* vote over, analysts believe Russian strategists decided there was no point in continuing the Geneva talks. Soviet negotiators hoped to influence public opinion in Nato countries to persuade their parliaments to reject deployment.

But this never materialized – although Norway's parliament voted on Tuesday by a majority of only one to support Nato policy. There have been decisive votes in support in **Britain, Italy, Belgium** and **West Germany. Denmark,** although unhappy about the missile question, supports deployment.

Holland remains ambivalent. The Government says it will not necessary comply with the Nato decision. But Dutch deployment is not due until 1986, by which time the situation may have changed.

Cruise missiles will start being deployed before the end of the year. West Germany the obvious strategic site for medium-range weapons, has insisted on simultaneous deployment in other countries – Italy and Britain.

Although the Italian base at Comiso in Sicily will not be ready until spring, some missiles will be installed earlier on a temporary basis.

Assuming there is no breakthrough in negotiations – and Nato is confident that the Russians will return to Geneva next year – then the plan is to deploy 464 cruise and 108 Pershing-2 missiles in five European countries before the end of 1988.

Of the cruise missiles, 96 would be at Greenham Common, 64 at Molesworth, 112 at Comiso, 96 in **West Germany** and 48 each in **Belgium** and **Holland.** All 108 Pershing-2 missiles will be sited in West Germany.

Delivery dates are not fixed but there is no plan to start deployment in **Belgium** and **Holland** for a couple of years.

On the Soviet side, Nato intelligence understands that 360 SS20s, each with three warheads, are in position. American negotiators insist that this means the Soviet Union already has a monopoly of intermediate-range missiles, with 1,080 warheads targeted on Europe. Short of a verifiable agreement that all of these will be dismantled, American deployment will go ahead.

No contest: Swiss police outnumber Geneva peace protestors.

The Commonwealth Conference

Thatcher dispels illusions

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday publicly drew the line on how far she was prepared to go towards satisfying the demands of the other Commonwealth countries on a new economic order, and on nuclear weapons. It was not very far.

Her speech at the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth heads of Government meeting here appeared to be in direct conflict with the speech made immediately before her by Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister who is the host of the conference.

On the call for a new economic order which will be before the conference in the form of a document entitled: "Towards a new Bretton Woods", Mrs Thatcher made it clear that she would have no truck with new institutions, and that fixed exchange rates would be disastrous.

"I do not believe that the creation of new international institutions will solve our difficulties," she said. "After all, we already have many that we didn't have at the time of Bretton Woods.

"Nor can we revert to a fixed exchange rate. Countries run their economies in such different ways that fixed exchange rates woud not stick. But our existing institutions, the IMF, the World Bank and GATT, can be further adapted and developed in the spirit which inspired the founders of Bretton Woods."

Mrs Thatcher warned the delegates from the 46 countries present that it was tempting to think that there ought to be "some grand design, some magic formula which would transform world trade and satisfy the aspirations of those we represent," but she added: "No such tidy solution exists, either internationally or at home."

Part of the solution to economic problems was to run domestic economies more efficiently and to keep open the channels of trade, the means of exchange and the flow of capital.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, whose initiative was largely responsible for the establishment of the study group which produced the economic document, commented afterwards that Mrs Thatcher was on her own in the condemnation of the plan.

According to Mr Muldoon, both Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, and Mr Robert Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, are leaning towards the support of the Commonwealth plan.

Mrs Thatcher certainly took a different view from that of her host. Mrs Ghandi said in her speech that she hoped the meeting would endorse the suggestion of the non-alingned summit for a programme of immediate measures and an international conference on money and finance for development.

Mrs Gandhi also urged an end to the production of nuclear weapons. "Such lethal weapons of destruction must never be used, and therefore must not be produced."

Colombian President's brother kidnapped

Bogotá (AP) – Four kidnappers abducted President Belisario Betancur's brother, as he left the Catholic University of Bogotá where he teaches law.

Señor Jaine Betancur Cuartas, a magistrate for the State Council, the highest administrative court in the country, was kidnapped by three men and a woman.

Burial refusal causes uproar

Castiglion Della Valle (Reuter) – A priest who refused to bury a communist who had "lived in sin" with a woman has caused uproar in this central Italian village.

Father Benito Baldoni said the man, Bruno Bindi, could not be given a church burial because he was a paid-up member of the Communist Party and, even worse, had cohabited with a woman for 18 years without getting married.

Not operating

Parma (AP) – For the first time since the Second World War, Italy's oldest opera house, the Teatro Regio, here will be closed for an entire season, because of damage caused by an earthquake earlier this month. The theatre, built in 1828, needs major repairs.

$100m damages

Corpus Christi, Texas (Reuter) – Ford has been ordered to pay $100m (about £66m) to the parents of a teenager who died after her car burst into flames when it was hit from behind. The jury found that Ford had been negligent in the design.

Costly siesta

Mexico City (AFP) – Ten tons of coins were stolen from a lorry belonging to Mexico's Central Bank while the driver and guard were taking a siesta. The coins were five-peso pieces, worth about 2p each.

Sakharov denial

Paris (AFP) – The Soviet Embassy here denied that one of its diplomats had said Dr Andrei Sakharov was free to leave the Soviet Union.

Judge's wigging

Sydney (AP) – Judges should take courses to learn not to be pompous and lawyers should get "out of drag", according to a senior judge here. Justice Jim McClelland said that the law in Australia must be demystified and the first step should be abolishing robes and wigs.

Greeks saw Exocet hit ship

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The master of the Greek bulk carrier Antigoni, which sank in the Gulf on Monday after being hit by an Iraq Exocet missile, said he saw the Exocet coming for the last three or four miles.

The ship's owners said Captain Christos Saridomihelakis escaped with his crew of 18 unhurt. Speaking by telephone from Tehran, he said the attack came as the Antigoni, with a cargo of scrap iron from Japan, was fourth in line in a convoy heading for Bandar Khomeini.

"He said he could identify the rocket as an Exocet because most ships going into the Gulf are prepared for this kind of trouble and know how Exocets behave," The owners' spokesman said. The master thought the missile was launched from the ground.

The crew took to a lifeboat. 'The rocket ripped a hole about 4ft above the waterline. There was a great deal of smoke and an explosion, but by then the lifeboat was 500 yards away.

Fifth victim: The Antigoni was the fifth Greek vessel to be attacked by Iraq in the Gulf since August 1982, according to the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry (AFP reports).

● **PARIS:** Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, ending a visit to France, deplored the "accident" (Diana Geddes writes). The French Defence Ministry refused to comment.

LONDON: Ships entering the Gulf region are being advised, after the Antigoni sinking, to give 48 hours' notice to Lloyd's if they wish to take out war-risks insurance (Andrew Cornelius writes).

The sinking of the 12,500-tonne Antigoni cost Lloyd's £1.5million.

Press Bill threatens Hersant

From Diana Geddes
Paris

The adoption by the French Cabinet yesterday, after only minor amendments, of the Government's controversial proposals to limit the size of press conglomerates will mean the break-up of the powerful Hersant press empire, including the sale of at least some of its national titles, if the Bill's provisions are approved by Parliament.

Under the proposals, no one person or group would be able to own both a national daily and a provincial daily; own more than three national papers, all of which did not amount to more than 15 per cent of total national daily newspaper sales; or own daily regional papers (no limit on the number) whose sales amounted to more than 15 per cent of the total daily regional paper sales.

M Robert Hersant is in breach of both the first and the third of those provisions. His press empire, with annual turnover of more than 4,000m francs (£330m), includes three national and 14 regional daily papers. He would have to get rid of one or the other category if the Bill becomes law.

He would be all right if he decided to keep his provincial papers at the expense of the nationals, as their combined sales amount to only 14 per cent of the 7m total daily regional newspaper sales.

But if, as seems more likely, he decides rather to keep his national papers – *Le Figaro, France-Soir*, and *L'Aurore* – he would still have to dispose of one or even two of them as their combined sales amount to 40 per cent of the 2m total national newspaper sales, which is well above the proposed 15 per cent limit.

The Government originally proposed to limit ownership of national dailies to one, but changed its mind after advice from the Council of State, the independent advisory body to which all bills are submitted.

Another amendment proposed by the Council, which would have permitted ownership of both national and provincial dailies, was rejected by the Government.

That means that the Philippe Amaury group, which controls both the Paris-based daily, *Le Parisien Libéré* and a regional daily, could also be affected, though there is some doubt that *Le Parisien Libr*, which has virtually no sales outside the Greater Paris area, can really be considered a national paper.

No other group will be affected since only Hersant owns three or more national papers, and no group other than Hersant controls more than 15 per cent of national or regional daily newspaper sales. That naturally increases the opposition's suspicions that the Government has deliberately set out to attack the Hersant press, virtually all of which is highly critical of the Socialist-Communist alliance.

There is certain to be a fierce fight in Parliament. The Bill is due to have its first reading next month.

M Hersant: Faces break-up of press empire.

Tension along Honduras border eases

From Alan Tomlinson
Tegucigalpa

Tensions along the border between Honduras and Nicaragua have reduced since the beginning of American troop manoeuvres in the region, according to US officials here.

They said the number of serious incidents along the 500-mile frontier had fallen sharply since US soldiers began arriving in their thousands in August.

But they said there had been no appreciable reduction in the flow of arms from Nicaragua to the rebels in El Salvador – despite intensive patrolling of the southern Honduran province of Choluteca by Honduran troops receiving specific training in finding and combating guerrillas from US advisers.

● **SAN SALVADOR:** The constituent assembly, after months of uncertainty and bitter debate, announced that elections for a new president of El Salvador will be held next March 25 (AP reports).

Draft budget for 1984 reflects EEC crisis

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

The EEC will only have about £110m left for emergencies in 1984 if the European Parliament accepts the latest draft budget agreed yesterday by finance ministers.

This underlines the financial crisis facing the Community as it prepares for next month's summit in Athens. The Community needed an extra £1,200m this year above initial provisions and still found it necessary to freeze some payments. The prospect of spreading the available money over the next 12 months is, therefore, not good.

The British problem is no more than a part – however important – of the argument. Members states regard it as an irritant which must be soothed rather than the central theme of the negotiations.

Parliament has given warning that it will freeze the entire budget – including the British and West German rebates – if the summit fails to produce concrete results too end the crisis.

Coup plotters return

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

The two self-confessed leaders of last year's attempted coup – Air Force Private Hezekiah Ochuka and Sergeant Pancras Okunu – have been returned to Kenya from Tanzania, where they were granted political asylum last year, according to reports in Nairobi.

In return, Kenya is said to have sent back to Tanzania a former airline pilot, Mr Hattie Maghee, who escaped from jail there after being accused of taking part in a plot to overthrow President Nyerere.

These moves were linked with the new understanding reached between the presidents of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda at a summit last week.

Spain clips army's wings as opposition gives its reluctant approval

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's ruling Socialists and the right-wing opposition have agreed to some fundamental reforms of the country's armed forces, proposed in a Bill which yesterday began its passage through Parliament. As a so-called "basic law", it must receive a two-thirds majority.

Named the "Serra Reforms" after Señor Narciso Serra, the Defence Minister, the Bill represents the biggest shake-up of Spain's still politically sensitive armed forces since they ceased to be the backbone of the Franco regime.

The Bill tries to clear up ambiguities about the supposed residual autonomous power of the armed forces by putting them firmly under the control of the Prime Minister, while creating the post of chief of the defence staff.

It will replace a timid Centre Democrat law of 1980 which left loopholes, notably exploited by the army plotters of the 1981 coup attempt, and end the continuing diffusion of power among the three services, still almost three "ministries".

The right-wing Popular Alliance at first accepted the reforms, defended by Señor Serra as essential if Spain is to have forces capable of fighting an external enemy like other European nations. But the opposition then began voicing a series of objections, interpreted here as responding to pressure from its supporters, including those in the armed forces.

Not all the differences have been ironed out and the Bill still has to complete its course through Parliament under urgency procedures the Government has ordered. Señor Serra wants to name the first chief of defence staff early in the new year

The assertion of political control is one of the points in the Bill objected to by the

Señor Serra: Reward for patience

opposition, particularly as it appeared to restrict the prerogatives of King Juan Carlos as commander-in-chief.

The king's unique stature and close personal relationship with the three services makes this a delicate issue for all parties.

Señor Serra, known as an admirer of the king, said on television recently that it was an advantage that the monarch's powers under the 1978 constitution are not defined too precisely.

The Socialists have agreed there will be no changes in the king's existing powers. A grey area apparently remains, since the chief of defence staff would in wartime assume direct operational charge of all three services.

The opposition has in return agreed to accept the Socialists' demotion of the cumbersome joint chiefs of staff, headed by a fourth chairman, to a purely advisory role.

Señor Serra has been criticized for going slowly in his first year. But the creation of a defence ministry with real power devolving on the chief of defence staff, with control of the purse strings, personnel, arms purchases and the national defence plan, represents the main test of the patient Catalan's strategy.

He hopes to have the Defence Ministry functioning in one building, Franco's old Tourism and Information Ministry in the Castellana, Madrid's main thoroughfare, during the first half of next year.

No agreement has, however, been reached with the opposition over the reduction of Spain's nine military regions to five or six.

Life in the shadow of apocalypse

In the first of two articles on Zambia, Stephen Taylor examines President Kenneth Kaunda's pragmatic approach to the divisive issues in southern Africa.

While discussing his reelection as Zambia's President for a fifth term last month, Dr Kaunda took time to pour tea for about 30 guests on the immaculate lawn of Lusaka's State House, where antelope and peacocks wander in a setting of colonial splendour. "It's a rule," he said "Nobody leaves before drinking my tea."

ZAMBIA
Part 1

After 19 years at the helm in Zambia, KK's personal style - a blend of disarming humility, devoutness, informality and occasional ruthlessness - has left its stamp on a nation that has become one of Africa's more open and tolerant one-party states. In the redrawn lines of conflict in southern Africa, he has also demonstrated a pragmatism which could keep lines of communication open between his more ideologically hard-line neighbours.

The reasons lie in recent history. A landlocked nation in the heart of Central Africa, Zambia has eight countries on its frontiers. In the past decade there has been full-blown war in four of them - Rhodesia, Mozambique, Angola and Namibia - and sporadic border troubles with a fifth, Zaire.

A Western diplomat says "Zambians have learnt their vulnerablility the hard way. It tends to make them cautious and sensible in foreign policy. They won't sup with the Devil, but they will talk to him."

KK: Unmistakable personal style of pragmatism (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

Alone among the heads of the frontline states, President Kaunda has shown a preparedness to meet the hated South African leadership. Last year he met Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, under a marula tree. In 1974 his negotiations with the late John Vorster as an intermediary proved a watershed in Rhodesia, leading to the release of detained nationalists like Mr Robert Mugabe and Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The Rhodesian guerrilla war, which subsequently intensified, caused Zambia deep suffering. In a recent interview with *The Times*, President Kaunda said: "We *were* the front line".

The pattern of that conflict may serve broadly as a model for future events in southern Africa: the defences of a poor, black nation playing host to nationalist guerrillas were wholly inadequate to prevent air raids and routine incursions by hardened ground forces of a desperate white administration. The closure of southern trade routes shattered a wobbly economy.

The front line has moved south now and President Kaunda speaks with the benefit of having been removed from the sharp end, but his view is none the less apocalyptic.

"When the explosion comes (in South Africa) it will make the French Revolution look like a Sunday picnic", he says. "Millions could die, unless the West forces Pretoria to change".

Resolution of the Rhodesian conflict across the Zambezi has fully restored the friendship with Britain, although relations with the Mugabe Government have never become warm because of Zambia's earlier support for Mr Nkomo. Matters were not improved by a deliberate snub to KK on his last official visit to Harare when amid great pomp and ceremony the Zimbabweans named Railway Avenue, one of the city's shabbiest roads, after the Zambian leader.

Paramount now, he says is Namibian independence and the establishment of a non-racial society in Southern Africa.

The summit with Mr Botha must be regarded as a failure, the South Africans having ignored requests to release Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr Walter Sisulu. The imprioned ANC leaders who along with Mr Oliver Tambo, the peripatetic ANC president, were sometimes resident here.

But in spite of the criticism he received from Mr Mugabe and President Nyerere of Tanzania over the meeting, he has no regrets and believes the South Africans learn from contact with black leaders.

"I would do it again without hesitation if I thought there would be a useful upshot," he says.

Tomorrow: The economy

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

New York

Is there any serious international pressure on Britain to negotiate with Argentina over the future of the Falklands? For the second year running, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution last week calling for talks between the two countries on the sovereignty of the island. Once again, it offered no reasonable basis for negotiations, referring only to the interest and not the wishes of the Falklanders.

But UN resolutions often require a degree of delicate interpretation. So before the vote was taken, I talked here to the representatives of a number of countries. They were in many instances the same people with whom I had discussed this question a year ago when essentially the same resolution was passed.

I was able to judge if there had been any change in the diplomatic atmosphere in the meantime. I have also subsequently discovered the American attitude in Washington.

If one were simply to go by the voting figures in the General Assembly, one might conclude that nothing had changed from last year. There were 87 votes for the resolution compared with 90 last year; nine votes against, compared with 12, and 54 rather than 52 abstentions.

This was encouraging for Britian. A UN resolution that is passed with so many abstentions loses much of its force. The outcome was even better than might have been expected because there had been some specualation that France and Italy might this year have voted for the resolution. But once again, they abstained.

Yet it is not quite the same as last year. The issue itself arouses less excitement. There will nearly always be a majority at the United Nations in favour of negotiations, any netotiations anywhere. But whereas, the Falklands were last year regarded as a major international question – though even then there was no expectation that there would be early action on the call for negotiatons – by now, it has been overtaken by other crises.

No cause for British alarm

There will, however, soon be some new moves by the United States which may cause some anxiety in London. A strong delegation is expected to be sent from Washington to the inauguration of the new Argentine President, and the embargo on arms sales to Argentina is likely to be lifted.

I believe it would be a mistake for British opinion to become alarmed by these developments. The Untied States is not about to provide supplies for a new invasion of the Falklands. There will still be careful controls through certification of the type of arms sold to Argentina.

The lifting of the embargo will be essentially symbolic, and a further gesture of friendliness towards the new democratic regime.

Gestures of friendliness can be taken too far. For concessions of substance to be made in the hope of making Argentine democracy more secure might encourage the Argentines to imagine that they would get away with anything. For Britain to be expected to behave as if Argentine democracy was already secure, would be even worse.

But I found a more widespread appreciation then I had expected at the United Nations that Argentine democracy has as yet, no deep roots.

In due course, Britain will be expected to reopen a dialogue with Argentina. But there is no good reason to resist that idea, provided that the right conditions for talks are established.

If Argentina were no longer to regard itself as being in a state of hostilities with Britain, would simply need to avoid a commitment to negotiating over the sovereignty of the islands as the climax to such a dialogue.

Limited Discussions of this nature, with no obligation to touch the question of sovereignty, would not meet the requirements of the UN resolution. But that would not matter. International opinion and British interest would alike be satisfied by the former belligerents simply talking.

Aborigines want mines not tourists

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

Traditional Aboriginal land owners in the Northern Territory seem likely to come into conflict with the Federal Government over uranium mining. They have told Canberra that they want mining to go ahead.

On Tuesday, a meeting of more than 300 traditional owners instructed the Northern Land Council, and advisory body, to tell the Government that the proposed mines at Jabiluka and Koongarra should be allowed to proceed and not be included in a national park as Canberra proposes.

Mr Jacob Nayingul, a field officer with the council, said later that the traditional owners opposed the Government's incorporation of the two mines into the Kakadu National Park, about 140 miles south-east of Darwin, which is on the world heritage list. This effectively stops their development and is in line with Labour Party policy which calls for the phasing out of uranium mining.

"They want the mines, not a park". Mr Nayingul said. "The people said if they could not get the mines they would seek the equivalent amount of money that they would have received from them".

Plans outlined by Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, on Friday called for $A70m (about £43m) to be spent over six years to develop tourism in the region.

Karen rebels set terms for freeing hostages

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok

Anti-Government Burmese rebels yesterday announced new conditions for the release of a young Frenchman and his wife held hostage for five weeks at a jungle base near the Thai-Burmese border.

A spokesman for the Karen rebels said the couple would be put on trial for "collaborating with the enemy" unless France agreed to recognize the legitimacy of the Karen National Union and either stopped aid to the Burmese Government or began providing aid to the Karens.

The terms were conveyed to delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which was asked by France to act as a go-between.

General Bo Mya, leader of the rebel group, said that he expected a reply from France by Friday.

The general inists that the capture of Jacques Bossu, aged 26, and his wife, Martine, aged 24, was not a kidnapping but part of a political campaign against the Burmese Government. M Bossu was one of six French engineers working on a cement plant. The Karens have been in rebellion for more than 30 years.

Philippine ferry capsizes

Manila – A Philippines passenger ferry with 300 people on board capsized and sank off the southern island of Mindanao and almost 60 people are feared drowned (Keith Dalton writes).

Search and rescue operations are continuing for possible survivors from the Dona Cassandra which sank on Monday near Naspit island, of Agusan Del Sur province, 550 miles south of Manila.

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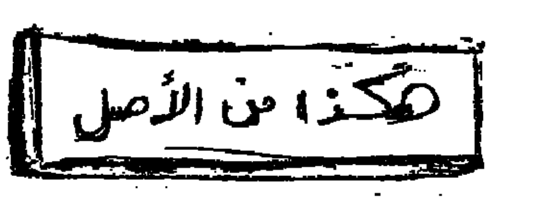

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Middle East manoeuvres: War of words goes to the superpowers

Russia acts to stop the PLO tearing itself apart

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, yesterday urged the splintered Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to settle its differences by political means, and offered Soviet help by saying Moscow would "contribute in every way possible".

Mr Gromyko was speaking during talks with Faruk Kaddumi, a senior leader of the mainstream Fatah faction and a supporter of the beleagured PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat. Mr Kaddumi arrived in Moscow shortly before two other leading spokesmen of the fragmented PLO: Mr Ahmed Jamani of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Mr Yassir Abed Rabbo of the pro-Moscow democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Athough at odds over the bitter fighting in Tripoli, the three men conferred before Mr Kaddumi's meeting with Mr Gromyko, according to PLO sources in Moscow.

Last week Mr Gromyko met Mr Abdel Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister in an apparently fruitless attempt to persuade Damascus to restrain pro-Syrian Palestinian forces in Lebanon.

Diplomats said, however, that Moscow had obviously brought pressure to bear on Damascus in a bid to save Mr Arafat and stop the PLO from tearing itself apart.

● TRIPOLI: Plans for a ceasefire between PLO-loyalists and opponents were being discussed in Damascus yesterday, but in Tripoli a chief opponent of the PLO leader said he would not accept the Arab mediation efforts (Our Correspondent writes).

"The Arab states are part of Yassir Arafat's party. We will not accept any mediation negotiation except from the people of Tripoli," said Mr Ahmed Jibril, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

Mr Jibril said he was giving the PLO leader until Saturday to get out of Tripoli or face an all-out attack on the city. He had earlier said he would attack on Friday.

A PLO loyalist spokesman said that Mr Arafat had agreed to a plan calling for evacuation of all PLO forces, loyalist and dissident, from in and around Tripoli. Reports from Damascus also said Syria went along with the plan.

● BEIRUT: Lebanon has broken diplomatic relations with Iran and frozen ties with Libya (Reuter reports). The decision was made by the Cabinet at its weekly session, an official source said yesterday.

● WASHINGTON: President Reagan is sympathetic to Israel's economic difficulties and is expected to discuss possible increases in US aid to Israel with the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir here next week (Mohsin Ali writes).

Israel, which is to receive $2.6bn (£1.8bn) in US military and economic aid this year, wants some of this assistance switched from loans to grants to ease its heavy interest burden.

President Reagan at a meeting with President Chaim Herzog of Israel on Tuesday reaffirmed "our unswerving commitment to Israel's security", the White House spokesman said.

● BAGHDAD: Iraq has closed down the Baghdad office of the radical Palestinian, Mr Abu Nidal, blamed for past attacks on moderate Palestinians and other Arabs, and expelled his men from the country, according to Western diplomats (Reuter reports).

● DAMASCUS: President Assad of Syria has almost completely recovered from his appendix operation, according to sources here yesterday (AFP reports).

● TEHRAN: Thousands of Iranians, sobbing and screaming "vengeance" gathered yesterday before the former US Embassy for the funeral of 13 Revolutionary Guards killed in last week's Israeli and French air raids in Lebanon (AFP reports).

Moscow and Washington: Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister (second right) with Mr Faruk Kaddumi of the Fatah faction of the PLO (second left) and (below) President Reagan and the Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

Pretoria rejects education overhaul

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Racial segregation will remain the guiding principle of South African education, but within this apartheid framework the creation of equal opportunities and standards for "every inhabitant, irrespective of race, colour, creed or sex" will be "the purposeful endeavour of the state".

This is the central decision of a long awaited White Paper on education released yesterday in Pretoria by Mr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister of National Education.

It is the government's response to a report commissioned three years ago from a committee headed by Professor J. P. DeLange, rector of the Rand Afrikaans University and published towards the end of 1981. The Government has accepted many of the committee's technical proposals but has rejected its most radical suggestions.

These were that there should be a single ministry of education for the whole population, that universities and private schools, which cater for no more than 2.4 per cent of pupils, should be free to enrol students of any race, and that state schools should also be non-racial if their governing boards and parents' associations so desire.

The Government brushed aside one of these recommendations earlier this year when it passed a Bill reinforcing its control over the number of black students which the non-racial, English-speaking universities – Natal, Rhodes, Cape Town and Witwatersrand – are allowed to accept.

The Government has even ruled out making available unused or under-used school facilities in white areas to pupils of other race groups.

Mr Viljoen said it was the ultimate aim to raise per capita spending on Indian, Coloured (mixed race) and black education to the white level. In 1980-81, according to Government figures, 913 rands (£550) were spent on every white pupil, compared with 513 rands on Indians, 253 rands on Coloureds and 140 rands on blacks. But the Government had not set any timetable.

The White Paper sheds light on the bureaucratic ramifications of the new constitution, approved at a whites-only referendum on November 2.

There will be 15 ministers of education for a population of about 30 million people. There will be one minister in each of the 10 black "homelands", one each for the Indian, Coloured and white communities, a separate minister for blacks outside the "homelands" and a national minister who is supposed to coordinate the activities of the others.

N Korean general blamed for Burma blast

Rangoon (AFP) – A three-man North Korean hit-squad was sent to Burma with specific orders from an Army general in Pyongyang to assassinate President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea, one of the accused North Koreans on trial here for the bomb attack told a court yesterday.

The defendant, Kang Min Chul, said in a written statement that the order came from General Tae Chang Su, and that the squad was aided by the North Korean Embassy here.

Fanie Botha gives up seat

Johannesburg – Mr Fanie Botha, who resigned last week as South Africa's Minister of Manpower amid a growing scandal about his financial affairs, has relinquished the parliamentary seat which he occupied for the past 25 years (Michael Hornsby writes).

This opens the way for another by-election battle between the Government and extreme right-wing parties in Soutpansberg, the country's most northerly constituency, where Mr Botha scraped home by only 621 votes last May

Canada jail riot

Burnaby (AP) – About 100 Canadian prisoners, armed with table and chair legs, went on a rampage at Oakalla provincial jail in British Columbia, and held a wing for 71 hours before surrendering. None of the prison staff was injured.

Beauty ban

Jakarta (AP) Beauty contests have been banned in Indonesia and Indonesian girls will not be allowed to take part in international beauty contests the Coordinating Minister for Social Welfare has announced.

Shops looted

São Paulo (AFP) – Eleven supermarkets were looted on the outskirts of São Paulo by jobless Brazilians and about 30 people looted a supermarket on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro.

Holt denial

Peking (AP) – China has dismissed as "sheer fabrication" the claim in a book by Anthony Grey that former Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt was a Chinese spy. Australia has also denied the allegation.

Red faces

Alfred, Ontario (Reuter) – Red-faced firemen had to watch their village fire station burn down here because an electronic failure jammed the door and they could not get their fire engines out.

Slogans and protesters greet Hu in Tokyo

Tokyo (Reuter) – Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party chief, arrived yesterday in Japan as right-wing groups staged anti-communist demonstrations in the capital. About 8,000 riot police were put on alert to prevent violence.

During his eight-day stay, Mr Hu, the first Chinese Communist Party chief to visit Japan, will meet the prime minister Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, today and on Satury.

They will discuss security in Asia, including the possibility of Soviet missiles targeted on Europe being transferred to the Far East as part of an arms reduction agreement with the United States.

They will also discuss ways of maintaining peace in the Korean peninsula after the October bomb blast in Rangoon which killed 17 senior South Korean officials.

The leaders are likely to devote most of their attention to ways of establishing stable bilateral relations and will concentrate on Japanese economic and technical aid for China's modernization.

Mr Hu Yaobang: A cheery arrival in Tokyo.

● PEKING: Mr Hu yesterday revealed details of his family for the first time, describing his wife as an old lady and saying they had five grandchildren (Reuter reports).

Before leaving for Japan, Mr Hu said his wife, Li Zhao, had recently retired from working in the textile industry. They have four children in their 30s and 40s.

Malaysian rulers defy power curb

From M. G. G. Pillai Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia's constitutional crisis has taken a turn for the worse: the nine rulers have refused, publicly for the first time this week, to endorse laws to reduce their powers.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, has met his senior political adviser to plan his next move. Datuk Musa Hitam, the Deputy Prime Minister, decided not to attend the Commonwealth conference in Delhi

The rulers are on a collision course with Datuk Seri Mahathir. His United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the main party in the ruling National Front coalition, backs him most states.

The Sultan of Perak, who has an even chance with the Sultan of Johore of being the next King, in April, said last week that "the amendments were supposed to strengthen the position of the rulers, but we cannot see any signs of it".

Israel faces classic dilemma

From Christopher Walker, Tyre

The 1,000lb bomb, which on November 4, killed more Israelis here than were lost in Lebanon during the 1978 Litani Operation, has faced the Army with the classic dilemma of occupation: to what extent can it react before the measures become counter-productive by alienating the local population?

Sice withdrawing to the Awali Line on September 4, the Israelis have lost 35 men in Southern Lebanon, with another 65 injured in 89 ambushes. The Government's decision to revert to the tactic of aerial retaliation has only pointed up the problem, not solved it.

It is easy to sympathize with those officers pressing for a maximum response, including partition of Lebanon and a scorched earth policy to clear a 200-yard security belt on either side of the road from the Israeli border north.

The 47 miles of coastal highway under Israeli occupation is a guerrilla's paradise, lined with fruit plantations which provide cover and contain buried arms caches.

Sections of the wall which occasionally lines the road have been destroyed by Israeli troops, but the bulldozing of a defoliated *Cordon Sanitaire* is something which they are aware would infuriate the Shia Muslim majority.

Referring to suggestions that Israel should adopt similar ruthless tactics to those used against the Palestinians in Gaza in the early 1970s, one commander warned: "It would be excellent for affording our men security – and a sure way of arousing Lebanese bitterness."

A similar reaction could be expected if the Army went ahead with other plans, which have included the destruction of abandoned buildings and deportation of Lebanese suspected of being collaborators.

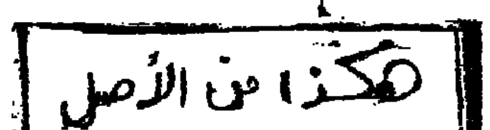
With the exception of the Japanese Red Army raid at Tel Aviv airport in 1972, the Tyre explosion was the only suicide attack mounted against an Israeli target. As such, it has disconcerted security chiefs here who had previously based their thinking on the assumption that the enemy would always hope to escape.

Among the 10,000 Israelis based in Lebanon, it has aroused a suspicion about the local population which borders on paranoia. "Knowing that any one of them might believe that blowing me up will ensure a front seat in Heaven does not endear me to them," one officer said.

It has become hard to remember June, 1982, when the Israelis were greeted with rice and flowers by Lebanese relieved to escape the yoke of the PLO. Strict orders prevent any stopping at shops or restaurants.

As one embittered leader of the Shia Amal militia explained: "At least Palestinians had money and spent it. The Israelis just use this as a place to dump their goods."

Although the Tyre bomber originated among Islamic extremists in the north, the Israelis suspect cooperation with members of the 600,000 Shia Muslims who form the bulk of the 800,000 inhabitants of southern Lebanon.



THE ARTS

Concerts

Curiosity premiere

Britten 70th Birthday
Wigmore Hall

Lest we forget, ever, that Benjamin Britten was born on the feastday of the patron saint of music, Blessed Cecilia was invoked (via Auden of course) by Sir Peter Pears at the start of a 70th birthday celebration on Tuesday night, organized by the Britten-Pears Foundation.

It became obvious, even in the company of the faithful, that it was not every day that she chose to startle composing mortals with immortal fire. The curiosity of the programme, a group of unpublished song-cycle rejects receiving its first performance, remained little more than a curiosity. Neil Mackie, accompanied by Iain Burnside, enjoyed Thomas Hardy's laconic narrative of the folly of human aggrandisement in "The Children and Sir Nameless", rose to the sprightly, observant tartan settings of three rhymes by William Soutar, and sunk to the dismally cloying "Not even summer yet" by Peter Burra.

The Edith Sitwell Canticle "Still falls the Rain" was eloquently performed by Mackie and Burnside with Richard Watkins, horn, but gained little by being set in the context of three supplementary and inferior Sitwell settings, punctuated by readings of her work by Sir Peter – an idea adapted from an Aldeburgh Festival programme of 1956 and not repeated since then.

The high point of the evening, in both creation and recreation, was Nicholas Daniel's performance, with Julius Drake, of the 1936 *Temporal Variations* for oboe and piano. Mr Daniel's intensely focussed playing conveyed chillingly its disquieting and prophetic message in its icy "Oration", its numb "Chorale" and its frighteningly mordant, Shostakovich-like waltz and polka.

Another early work, the *Three Divertimenti*, had began the eveing, and the String Quartet No 3 from 1975 ended it, both in performances of freshly illuminating wit and beauty from the Brodsky Quartet.

Hilary Finch

Hotch-potch Day

ECO/Mackerras
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Fresh (no, perhaps that is not quite the right word) from their long tour of America, the English Chamber Orchestra and Sir Charles Mackerras returned to the Festival Hall on Tuesday for the Royal Concert, that curious occasion, this year, as last, a musical hotch-potch, with which St Cecilia's Day is celebrated.

The hotch-potch comes about because too many performers have to be accommodated: here it was the Kneller Hall Trumpeters, who muscled in with a Suite from Susato's *Danserye* played with blaring chords and none-too-accurate solos in a style that would have seemed old-fashioned even if it had not been for the poignant memories it conjured up of David Munrow's advocacy of these pieces.

For the ECO, as for us all – if I may make so bold as to speak for the Duchess of Gloucester – the novelty of the evening was the National Anthem. Elgar, Britten (memorably), and Ives have had a go at it, so there is no reason why Sir Charles Mackerras should not do so, too.

Though an introductory Hornpipe from the *Water Music* made me think for a moment that we were in for a Handelian *Pineapple Poll* (now there is a thought), Mackerras's arrangement simply twiddled around attractively with the notes in a mid-eighteenth century manner, making good use of the twin oboe-and-horn choirs that were on hand.

They also shone in Mackerras's rolled-together, too-long conflation of Handel's *Concerti a due cori*, which bustled happily along without the exciting weight of his recording

Mackerras: bustling

with the LSO; the splendid ground bass variations went best.

There was also Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony, which included a Pilgrim's March with a nice, natural pulse; and Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, in which Vladimir Ashkenazy was typically forceful but unsurprisingly unrevelatory.

Nicholas Kenyon

LSO/Chung
Barbican Centre

The work that suited the London Symphony Orchestra best on Tuesday evening was Kodaly's Háry János Suite. A beautifully rich and unanimous string tone was evident in the first movement, and elsewhere there were piquant woodwind and spirited brass contributions. There was a moment of distinguished viola playing from Alexander Taylor, and John Leach coped excellently with the difficult cymbalom.

One is always surprised by Kodaly's success at fitting the letter into the foreign environments of a full symphony orchestra, although this highly enjoyable score is replete with outlandish elements. The latter movement's grotesque gestures were, indeed, nicely characterized by the conductor, Myung-Whun Chung. Kodaly's first movement is named "The Fairytale Begins," and this pointed towards the next piece, John Corigliano's Flute Concerto, which also dwells in a kind of fairyland.

It is subtitled "Pied Piper Fantasy" and proved, in the end, to be a piece of music theatre, with the soloist, James Galway, in a red-and-gold creation that one has to assume was an authentic Pied Piper costume. The story, with modifications by the composer, provided ample opportunities for illustrative music, and Hamlyn's rats scampering through every department of the orchestra, gave rise to some highly inventive orchestration. Some of it, in fact, was rather too inventive, occasionally rendering Mr Galway inaudible, both on flute and, later, on tin whistle.

Eventually, his pipings were answered by numerous juvenile flautists in the audience, who gathered together on the stage and were led out of the hall by Mr Galway. Corigliano's concerto was, then, quite amusing, but its music was impersonal, lacking the sort of memorability which plausibly would explain its supposedly hypnotic effect first on Hamlyn's rats and then on the town's children. There is another performance tonight at 7.15.

Max Harrison

Theatre: London and Minneapolis

Donald Cooper

Pantomime with affection: Antonia Ellis, Alfred Marks and Geoffrey Hutchings in *Poppy*

Victorian morality lesson

Poppy
Adelphi

With increasingly nervous sounds coming from Hongkong, and Downing Street raising a banner to Victorian morality, Peter Nichols's music history of the nineteenth-century opium war seems a good deal closer to home than on its first appearance at the Barbican last year.

The fact that Britain's part in carrying the opium trade to China has been neatly erased from patriotic memory partly explains why Nichols decided to tell the story in the ultra-patriotic form of a Christmas panto. More to the point, recent British history has shown that jingoism is alive and well, as a natural companion with the doctrine of free trade.

Public events apart, this is much clearer in the Adelphi version than it was in the original production. Gone is the exotic extravagance of Farah's Barbican stage, and in its place is a translucent walkdown, and a simple sequence of flown pieces and projected backdrops. Recast, partly rewritten, and with three new numbers, the show is now much closer to a conventional Christmas show. It was always apparent that Nichols wanted to begin with a *faux-naïf* entertainment, and then show it going wrong. What is now abundantly clear is that, besides turning pantomime to his own purposes, he also has a genuine affection for it.

Beginning on the village green with a mass exodus of the unemployed to seek their fortune in the market places of the world, Poppy dispatches Squire Dick and his mother (principal boy and drama) out East for a series of adventures that are perfectly in keeping with Victorian extravanganza – even though they have the effect of turning the fresh-faced young Dick into a hard-face bully, and his beloved Sally into a dope-addict.

Nichols uses all the traditional routines. The experience of opium is conveyed in a hallucinatory transformation ballet; audience participation serves for a re enactment of the British sacking of the imperial summer palace, with two sides of the house gunning each other down in Monty Norman's deadly pastiche of the old music hall. Mr Norman elsewhere turns in similarly expert echoes of Gilbert and Sullivan, and a rousing Kipling-esque march outlining the inexorable advance of the East India Company. The show is still brilliantly clever as in presenting the Foreign Secretary, literally, as a ventriloquist's doll; but never at the expense of the story.

With the exception of Geoffrey Hutchings's carnivorously affable Dame, the show has been largely recast.

Alfred Marks, the buccaneering merchant, releases the part into full-blooded life of a *Punch* ogre; Antonia Ellis's Dick has legs to match her predecessor, and a fearsome ravenous grin; best of all, is Nicola McAuliffe's Victoria, a simpering monarch with hooting top notes, subsequently undergoing transformation into a fully armed Britannia and a Salvation Army drug-pusher.

Irving Wardle

Dance

Pace, humour and lots of drive

Run Like Thunder
Sadler's Wells

There was I, two-thirds of the way through London Contemporary Dance Theatre's opening programme at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday, thinking that what we had seen was all very worthy and ably danced but not at all exciting, and that what this company needed was a work with some sense of theatre and a more adventurous use of movement. Then came the London premier of Tom Jobe's new piece, and I saw that he had exactly the same idea.

A programme note tells us that *Run Like Thunder* takes Appalachian square dances as the thematic basis of both music and choreography. Nobody could ever call Jobe a square, but he has found a novel treatment in conjunction with the composer Barrington Pheloung. The music in fact, was realized on a computer in the studios of City University (is this the first time an engineer has shared the programme credits for a new score) and is performed by the computer, so perhaps somebody from the finance and technology pages should be reviewing it. In the absence of such expertise, I will say only that computers can make a fair go of supplying the sound of a scrapy fiddle, and that although it does not replace the caller with complete intelligibility, it does at least provide quasi-vocal sounds like a friendly inter-galactical robot.

The dances are in Jobe's familiar mix of styles, combining the virtuoso partnering of the dance studio with the flip manner of the disco and the energy of an exercise class. Paul Dart has dressed the cast in a chic version of aerobics or gymnastic uniforms, all silver, grey and black with red and blue highlights, backed by a huge sheet of numbers (half-scrawled, half-printed), and with glowing squares underfoot – rectangles, actually, but you get the allusion.

The choreographic style is much as before, but far more ambitiously organized than in Jobe's earlier works, and correspondingly more satisfying. Chunky little Anne Went has what looks like the Jobe role, with fast, slippery transitions and couldn't-care-less shoulders. Anita Griffin and Michael Small dance a tough, athletic duet, and there is a zippy quartet for Linda Gibbs, Sallie Estep, Jonathan Lunn and Darshan Bhuller, besides opening and closing ensembles that state the square dance theme more explicitly although still in a personal way.

The first-night audience was one to surprise anyone who remembers the company's almost improvized and revolutionary beginnings, not so many years back: full of dress shirts, black ties and mayoral chains, complete with royalty (Princess Michael of Kent) and a government minister (Lord Gowrie). The pace, humour and drive of *Run like Thunder* had the house laughing and cheering.

John Percival

Huddersfield Festival

Northern Music Theatre
St. Paul's, Huddersfield

Perhaps because of its very protean nature, music theatre is not a genre that keeps companies in business for long. Of British ventures, only the Fires of London has much of a history, and that partly because it has an outstanding practitioner as its house composer, Maxwell Davies, partly because it exists, too, for less risky purposes. On Sunday night it brought a programme of chamber music to Huddersfield, leaving dance and drama to be supplied two days later by Northern Music Theatre.

It is a new troupe, founded only two years ago, but already it has enough professionalism to plant itself firmly on the map, and enough energy and versatility to make music theatre more than a period curiosity. Its festival contribution was most encouraging. In the first half it presented rare works by the three leading German authors of music theatre – Kagel, Stockhausen and Henze – including what was claimed as the first staged performance of the last's *Labrynth* of 1951. In the second half, there was something completely new: Philip Grange's *The Kingdom of Bones*. The Kagel was his *pas de cinq* niftily executed by five gents in white suits with canes and straw hats. David Sawer, the director, put it over as a softshoe shuffle for a quintet of Fred Astaires.

The joke is that the rhythm of feet and sticks is the only music, and, though like all Kagel jokes, it becomes threadbare long before the end, this performance kept it going as long as humanly possible, which was for about three of the 10 minutes.

Another victory of artistry over commonsense followed in Lesly Schatzberger's enactment of Stockhausen's *Little Harlequin*, a separable episode from his *Harlequin* for dancing clarinettist. Miss Schatzberger wisely ignored the composer's preference for a costume in lozenges and appeared as a slim and smple clown, an effective persona for a performance of charm, happiness and skill. Henz's *Labrynth* afterwards was a more normal ballet, with the brief chamber orchestral score used to underpin a wrestling match between Theseus, looking like a bathing beauty out of a Cocteau film and the Minotaur. And here I must apologize to Anthony Pay who rather than Henze himself, as I misremembered the other day, directed last year's performance of *Le miracle de la rose* by the London Sinfonietta.

The NMT programme ended with the only sung piece of the evening, the new Grange, in which some may have been disappointed to fine the words in Russian. Not me. As Grange notes, the dark colour of the Russian language is well suited to his material – this is, like Schoenberg's *Erwartung*, a monodrama for a woman in extremis, though one who has lost her child rather than her lover.

Moreover, the impenetrability of the text left one free to register the full force and fitness of Grange's music, while at the same time it spurred Linda Hirst to a performance of commanding urgency and truth. This was a highly controlled, richly imaginative slice of musical-theatrical experience, adding much to the growing reputations of both company and composer.

Paul Griffiths

Television

"Apparently they found something unusual in the lake" were some of the first words in Chessgame (Granada) – not a body, for once, but an aeroplane. There was a body *in* it, of course, but fortunately it was not that of Terence Stamp – although he must have been wondering why he was not mercifully spared the rest of the plot. Mr Stamp is an excellent actor, even if he does wear a permanently worried expression. His major anxiety on this occasion, however, was to lend credence to the plot in which he is a "Middle East pundit", and to breathe life into a script which described one Israeli spy, for exmple, as "a thinking man's Simon Wiesenthal". Mr Stamp improvized with pauses and sudden grimaces, but he was clearly becoming desperate.

The story had the customary scenes: a funeral (one knows the burial service by heart from watching "spy thrillers" on television), some epicene civil servants, suspicious foreigners who turn up in the most unexpected places, a corpse or two, and then of course the Moscow master-spy knocking back the vodka – "Not *the* Igor Panin!" All the familiar faces appeared also – not *the* George Pravda playing a Russian spy again! – since in such circumstances the actors have to be as reassuring as the plot.

It seems improbable that the people who commission such a series do not realize how pedestrian it is, which makes it more difficult to understand their decision to spend so much money on bringing secondhand material to an already jaded public. Lack of imagination or enterprise? A purblind reliance on formulae which were successful in the 1970s? Or perhaps they really believe that international affairs are best understood in terms of melodrama, on the model of *World in Action*. It does not bear thinking about.

Peter Ackroyd

Teetering Pintilie

The Seagull
Guthrie, Minneapolis

Clipping a bird's wing can cripple it. Making his American debut at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Lucian Pintilie more than clips *The Seagull*. In his manifest zeal to make both the text and subtext of Chekhov's play soar, the Romanian director miscalculates and wrings its neck.

Mr Pintilie's version, based on Jean-Claude van Itallie's translation, begins midway into the fourth act. The superstitious Madame Arkadina (Lois Smith) screeches when she discovers three candles on the gaming table, removes one, and the characters play, observed by Konstantin (David Pierce). At the mention of the seagull, chimes sound and a haggard Nina (Mary Beth Fisher) is seen through the designer Radu Boruzescu's smoky two-way mirror sliding screens behind the Guthrie's thrust stage.

After the gamblers wander off and their table sinks below as if to a grave, Konstantin and Nina play out most of their fourth act scene, sitting on the stage floor while the one chair left bars intruders from a non-existent door. At the point when Nina recalls her speech in Konstantin's play, the lakeside stage glides on through parted screens and the fiasco of the play is enacted as if in a nightmare, with Arkadina making her criticisms while sailing back and forth in a swing suspended from the flies. After Konstantin stops his play, Masha and her hapless suitor take up the beginning of Act I.

The concept of the action viewed from Konstantin's memory is often very effective, particularly when he stands miserably watching the scenes between Nina and Tregorin (Munson Hicks) and when he pushes his mother in the swing as others discuss her jealousies. A nightmarish perspective must also be the pretext for production elements which teeter between the farcical and the grotesque. The *homme fatale* doctor is embraced by a mistress in the swing and both tumble to the ground, Nina and Arkadina do backward somersaults revealing their bloomers, and after Konstantin first tries suicide he and his uncle both faint and the characters dragging them off collide. Sometimes the antics make one think this is *The Marriage Proposal*.

Among the grotesque moments are Konstantin rolling on and off Nina like a sleepy lover and Arkadina doing the same to Trigorin.

Between these sequences, the farcical of which are perhaps aimed at evoking Chekhov's view of the play as a comedy, are scenes played realistically. Exemplary is the Arkadina-Konstantin fight, which begins tenderly and builds to believable and amusing book-throwing fury. Behind much of the action, whatever its mode, are quantities of sounds and sights. Countless offstage gunshots, chimes, gongs, wind and thunder and lightning, and themes sung or played on various instruments are heard. Without Chekhov's text, these accompaniments might be presented as a sound and light show.

Perhaps Pintilie's conception could be more fairly judged

The Seagull from the playwright's point of view: David Pierce as Konstantin and Mary Beth Fisher as Nina.

with a stronger cast. Though David Pierce's Konstantin, Michael Egan's *homme fatale*, George Hall as Arkadina's brother and Paul Walker as Masha's pursuer are praiseworthy, the rest strain for effect. The result is neither comedy, tragedy nor bitter-sweet tragicomedy, but fragments which do not coalesce into a whole. The production is never boring, but neither is it moving. This is a case where a play's sub-text and symbolism have been so overscored that the audience's imagination is likely to be snuffed rather than kindled, as if *The Cherry Orchard* were presented with a string snapping every few minutes.

Holly Hill

Through a glass colourfully

The Times Profile: John Piper

A woman dressed in garish green steps out of a flinty church and directs me down a very steep hill. On either side and at intervals across the flanking hills spread flaming beech coppices. At the bottom of the hill an old farmhouse, wearing a glittering coat of flint and brick, takes centre stage. It had seemed a dull autumn morning when I left London.

John Piper is 80 on December 13. He has lived at Fawley Bottom, near Henley, since 1935. My sensation of entering a Piper painting as I neared his kingdom immediately and pictorially clarified the most important features of his work. He is a popular painter but not a fashionable one.

The figure who appears in welcoming manner at the farmhouse door reminds me of a very young, very clever undergraduate. He is thin, wears jeans and sweater and seems filled with expectant energy. On closer inspection, his face is drawn by the folds of age into extreme elegance, more so than in the photographs of his youth and middle age. His eyes are exceptionally blue and his hair very white. It is evident at once that the house and many outbuildings are all parts of his working empire. We sit in a converted hay barn, round a heavy iron stove. This is where he paints, hardly a studio as most people imagine and absolutely nothing to do with the de rigeur "North light".

As a boy, he took his "pushbike" round the countryside near Epsom, where he lived, and all along the south coast. He carried the guide *Highways and Byways* and it was his attempt to improve on its illustrations which led him into sketching. Later this aspect of his art was to continue in his relationship with John Betjeman and their shared editorship of the celebrated Shell Guides. However, first he was under pressure to follow his father into the family law firm. After his father's death, he felt able to enrol at the Royal College of Art.

There he found himself on what he describes as the "crest of a developing wave". The art world was living through a revolutionary time of change which no young artist could ignore. He took up abstract art to see what it had to offer him. But "I never intended to be a total abstract painter. I liked nature too much." His landscape painting continued but now they were collages, made out of strips of paper often torn up on site.

Nevertheless he and his future second wife, Mfwanwy Evans (he had a short first marriage to a fellow student) edited *Axis*, "A Quarterly Review of Contemporary Non-figurative Painting and Sculpture".

Possibly, the strength of his success as an abstract painter can be gauged by the strength of the anger when he left the movement. "Caddish" is the way it was seen, or so he says now. "The belligerence and antagonism between abstract painting and the rest, round about the war, before, was so strong." This attitude was still prevalent in 1962 when an Arts Council publication described his postwar development as "a nostalgic retreat into insular sensibilities".

John Piper pinpoints the start of the war as the time he gave up abstracts. "I thought it was not a proper activity for a youngish gentleman to go on practising." He wanted to be "useful". There was also the question of earning money to feed his wife and young son. Each abstract took three or four weeks, which meant not more than 25 completed in a year. "And, of course, I never sold any. And I didn't think that would do. Not that I prostituted my art."

This fate worse than death was avoided by Sir Kenneth Clark's organization of "war artists". Some of Piper's most exciting oils stem from the period when he arrived at a still-burning Coventry or London and painted great cathedrals or cityscapes going through their death-throes. Here was not "pleasing decay" but something more frightening.

It was after the war, in the 1940s and 50s, that Piper became a figure in the art world. He was not only painter, but illustrator, writer, designer of stained glass windows. He was potter, he was stage designer - for the Sitwells' *Facade* and for many of Benjamin Britten's operas – he even designed materials for Liberty. John Piper has long got used to the inference "jack of all trades, master of . . ." Frankly, he doesn't care. But if pressed, he points to the great artists of his day, Picasso, Braque. It was the tradition in which he grew up. And there was "not a medium they didn't try. Good artists wanted to try everything."

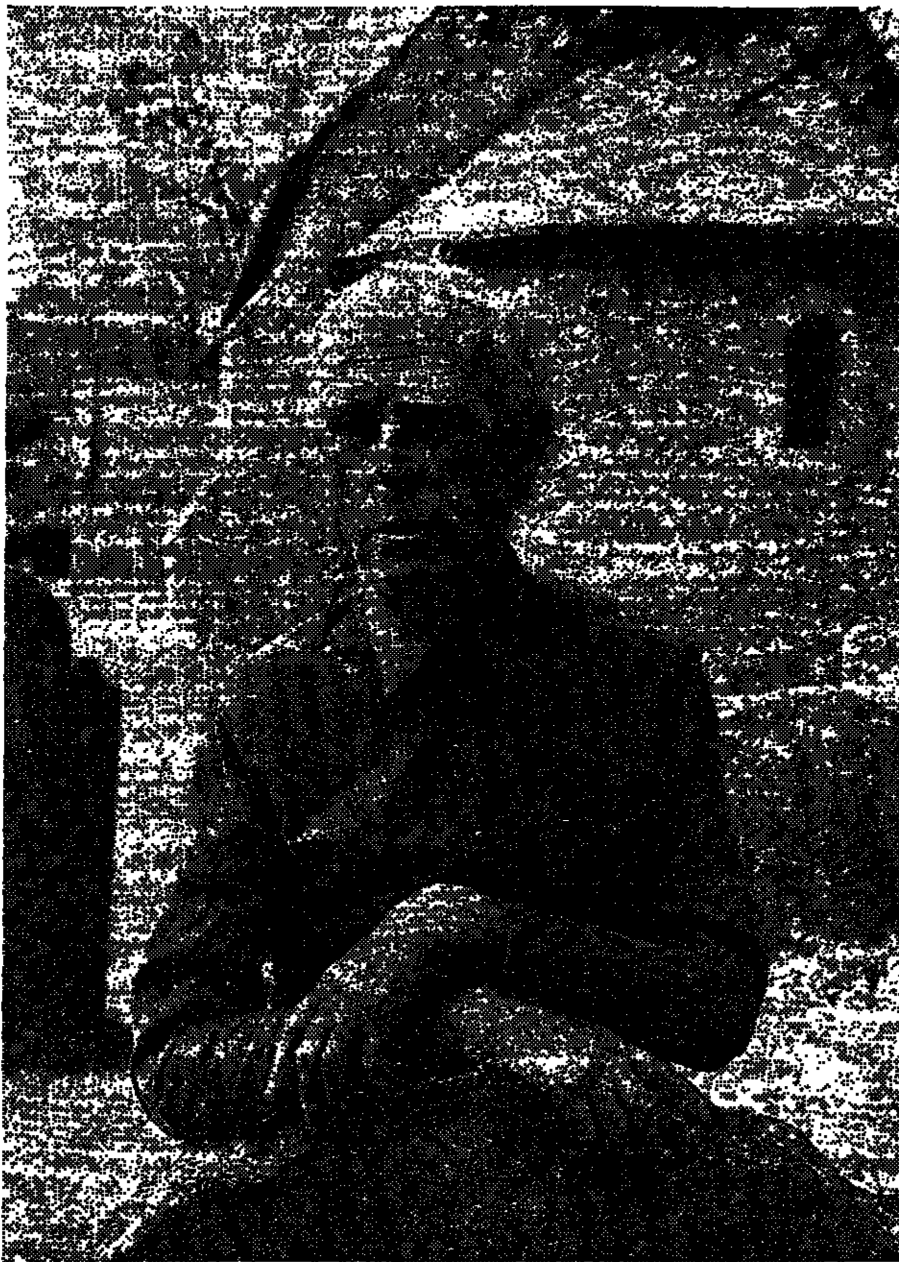
This suggests the artisan's attitude that he brings to his work. He approaches his own and other people's worth with simplicity. It is the technicalities of a profession that arouse his enthusiasm. There is the question of light, for example. The subject arises out of my probing his lack of world travel – he has never been in an aeroplane. He points out that Turner never went further than Naples and Constable never went further than the Lake District. He bids me look out of the window. We agree it is all right out there, a nice grey day, what Cezanne called "clear grey". Very typically English, our average. And it is this light, he says, with its high percentage of molecules of water, to which our eyes become accustomed. A painter either exaggerates or reduces colour from this mean. "It ruins an English painter's eye to get a glaring light."

Light naturally leads on to stained glass. Again talking in the most practical terms, Piper explains how he began experimenting in the medium because he wanted to see how colour altered when light came through it instead of reflecting off it. Later, in a second studio, he shows me two new pieces done specially for the show. One announces the birth of Christ, using a medieval onomatopeic device. Christ is Born. The duck quacks, "quando, quando". The owl hoots "ubi, ubi" and the sheep bleats "Bethlem". He is obviously delighted with it. He point out that stained glass has always been a medium for the "grey countries of northern Europe."

Piper's latest exhibition at the Marlborough will be entitled "Romantic Places" with a detailed yet luxuriant painting of his garden on the invitation. ("Not typical", says Tony Reichardt, who nevertheless has quickly bought it for himself.) "Romantic" is generally used as a term of criticism, suggesting a vagueness which conveys sentimentality without meaning, surface appeal without insensity. This is the approach that Piper ferociously labels "splash and doodle". He recalls that in 1942 he wrote a short book, *British Romantic Artists*. His editor, Kenneth Clark, suggested a first line: "Romantic Art deals with the particular." Piper feels this describes the core of romantic art and notes, incidentally, that an obsession with the particular is the only thing that saved Turner and Constable from being "splash and doodlers".

The particular of his painting has so often been a church that I want to ask about his own religious convictions. The word "conviction" however, is rejected as being too strong for his faith. "Leaning" might be more appropriate. In fact, both Mfwanwy and John Piper, under John Betjeman's influence, were christened and confirmed at the time of their marriage. They have stayed in the Church of England ever since but, I gather, only just. Mfwanwy's respect for the English language is offended by the new forms of service and John doesn't much enjoy the people. They look for early morning services. On the other hand, John Piper admits to a few "revelations", hastily amended to "proofs" which hold him to a belief in God. They are not, this definitely stated, to do with his work.

Now Mfwanwy summons us for wild duck and salad. Mfwanwy Piper is part of the Fawley Bottom myth. Everyone talks of her essential presence, her huge mug-decorated kitchen, her inspired cooking. When I asked John Piper what she had contributed to his working life, he immediately suggested "acute intelligence". She is his first critic who has quite simply, always been there. She does have her "natural prejudices", her husband points out with definite pride. There is a particular green, for example, she can't stand. Her own career has been mainly as a librettist. She has just finished the first draft of a new oratorio. But she misses the close collaboration she once enjoyed with Benjamin Britten.



Piper: nature before abstraction (Photograph by Snowdon)

JOHN EGERTON CHRISTMAS PIPER
born December 13 1903
educated Epsom College;
Royal College of Art
1938 published Shell Guide to Oxfordshire
1941-42 Queen commissions water colours of Windsor Castle
1948 publishes with John Betjeman Buckinghamshire Architectural Guide
1949 Berkshire Architectural Guide
1958 Windows of Eton College Chapel commissioned
1961 Windows and interior of Nuffield College Chapel completed
1962 Coventry Cathedral window completed
1966 Designed tapestry for High Altar, Chichester Cathedral
1969 Designed windows for King George VI Memorial Chapel, Windsor
1976 published Lincolnshire Churches

Despite his literary housewife, the house with its giant-size rooms, its Calders hanging like nursery decoration, its "joyous" Piper pottery (Quentin Bell's apt description), its two studios, crammed with work, past and present, is definitely the house of a painter not a writer. Mfwanwy has written recently: "Although our time is much less our own than it was 40 years ago, it is still, to some extent, lived as it were, largely owing, I think, to John's manipulation of order and chaos, and his very personal mixture of ruthlessness and conscientiousness."

Gouache of St Raphael, Dordogne, 1968

He is a conscientious subject to interview. still willing after our pudding of quince-flavoured apple to show me round the house and garden. Cezanne's "clear grey" has turned to something more threatening, making the autumnal colours even nearer Piper's own sharp tints. The flower beds are filled with dank remains, rows of outsize sun-flowers drooping on no longer yellow heads. The desolate vegetable plot reminds Piper of its heyday during the war when they grew all their food. His past poverty is not forgotten. On the other hand this summer they had a gigantic garden party shared with their neighbour John Mortimer, who was celebrating his sixtieth birthday. "Thousands of people and no time to talk to them," murmurs Mfwanwy. They were given £5,000 worth of fireworks, which meant their names were writ large in the sky.

John Piper's eightieth birthday year is bringing him the kind of recognition from the establishment that he has not been previously accorded. His critics will say that this is a peculiarly British tribute paid to survivors. For them he will always remain an illustrator, a one-dimensional painter who has made full use of his vocation to draw attention to the British architectural heritage. His admirers will feel, just as strongly, that he has, at last, lived through the prejudice against non-abstract non-European art and can look forward to an ever-increasing reputation as a major artist.

Meanwhile, the painter himself, surrounded by a kingdom of his own creation, where the intensity of nature echoes his own unremitting concentration, will continue his very particular way.

Rachel Billington

A retrospective exhibition of John Piper's work will be shown at the Tate Gallery from next Wednesday until January 22.

moreover... Miles Kington

In the box – and on it

Television people suffer from split minds about their audience. They care deeply about the numbers of people watching, but they care not a fig about what the people are thinking while they are watching – that is, they worship the ratings but have no time at all for the opinion of the public. There is nothing in television to correspond to the importance of *The Times* letter page.

Channel 4, however, who would all commit suicide en masse if they worshipped ratings, have a slightly more enlightened attitude to viewers. Critics of the channel would say that with a smaller audience they are more able to deal with their viewers on a personal basis, but what I am thinking of is the fact that the only programme actually made by Channel 4 is *Right to Reply*, a forum of viewers' opinions, and that they have just installed a tiny studio in the foyer of their offices where members of the public can go in and record a minute's worth of praise or criticism.

This Video Box, as it is called, represents a breakthrough on two major fronts, one intentional and one not. First of all, it means that any comment from a viewer will be spoken by the viewer personally and not enacted by a repertory speaker. Liz Forgan, who dreamt up the idea for Channel 4, once had a letter read out on the BBC's *Points of View* in a voice not at all like her own; when she objected she was told that the voice chosen for her letter was "Reigate Sympathetic". I suggest that people who write to the BBC in future should specify whether they want their letters read in Glasgow Incoherent with Rage, Laidback Leamington, Resigned Welsh, Hampstead Concerned or Midlands Unisex, though of course the best way of getting your letter on air still remains adding Aged 12½ in brackets.

But the other effect of Forgan's Revenge will be something that Channel 4 have not dreamt of. They are expecting viewers' reactions. They are hoping for contributors like the Bishop of Edmonton, who was filmed in a promotional 60 seconds complaining that American football, which he loves dearly, clashes with evensong. They are dreading drunken Sohoites coming in off Charlotte Street and recording imcomprehensible rambles. What they do not seem to anticipate is the appearance of people who simply want to audition for TV.

If I object to the standard of newsreading on TV, for instance, I would not go into the Video Box and complain about it. I would go in with a news bulletin, read it brilliantly and leave my phone number. If I thought there should be more bridge on TV, I would take in three friends, deal a quick hand and come to blows over the bidding, if there was time. If I wanted to see more motor bicycle racing on Channel 4, I would – no, there's probably a limit to what you can do inside a video box.

But I fully expect that in the next few weeks, Channel 4's Video Box will be deluged by:

People recently released by breakfast TV programmes who have got into the habit of rising a 4am and now have nowhere to go.

Pop groups who can't get on *The Tube*.

Ex-Nationwide stars.

Dr David Owen.

Film producers with trailers of their documentary on all-Latin American, lesbian football teams.

Members of the royal family who can't get their books published.

People who have just had books published but can't get on *Start the Week*.

Post-Alexei Sayle stand-up comedians.

Tam Dalyell.

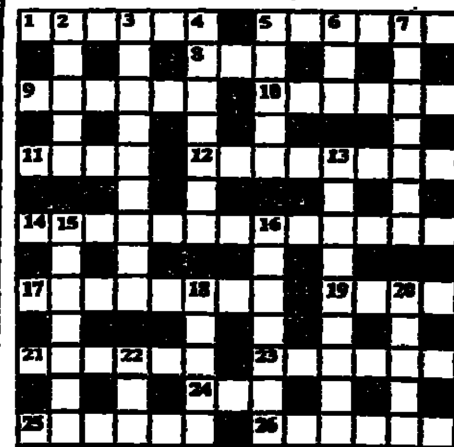
Buskers who can't find a pitch.

People who want to open a new small restaurant in Soho but can't find premises, now this Video Box is the sort of thing they're looking for and what sort of rent would Channel 4 want?

Harry Evans.

Personally, I shall be trying to get them interested in this sitcom I'm writing about the hilarious goings on at an alternative self-sufficiency farm in Wales.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 210)



ACROSS
1 Dealer (6)
5 Ornamental awning (6)
8 Lubricate (3)
9 E Nigerian region (6)
10 Pierce with spike (6)
11 Whimper (4)
12 Many-storied (4,4)
14 Chinese Nationalist leader (6,3,4)
17 Helpless (8)
19 Abundant (4)
21 Young swan (6)
23 Of sexual desire (6)
24 Boat blade (3)
25 Reveal (6)
26 Registers (6)

DOWN
2 Lift (5)
3 Misuse funds (9)
4 Selfish driver (4,3)
5 Adhere closely (5)
6 Pinch (3)
7 Fur-trimmed cloak (7)
13 Storage lake (9)
15 Peaceful (7)
16 Stern (7)
18 Praise lavishly (5)
20 Ruff (5)
22 Maiden name (3)

SOLUTION TO No 209
ACROSS: 1 Fetish 4 Tomato 7 Flip 8 Randomly 9 Ceramics 12 Hen 15 Patois 16 Zimmer 17 Tor 19 Maverick 24 Colossal 25 Adze 26 Dragon 27 Tablet
DOWN: 1 Fife 2 Trimester 3 Harem 4 Tonic 5 Moot 6 Tilde 10 Axiom 11 Shirr 12 Homicidal 13 Nark 14 Spot 18 Odour 20 Arson 21 Eclat 22 Long 23 Pert

Services come first

Sceptics who believe that all the electors want is lower taxes with no cuts in, or regardless of the effects on, public services, should take heed of a recent MORI poll for the *Daily Express*. This found that 61 per cent of the public preferred to "maintain spending on public services, even if this means an increase in taxes" rather than to "cut taxes, even if this means a cut in spending on public services" (30 per cent. It might be suggested that nearly half the population don't work and therefore don't pay taxes, so might be largely responsible for this result. Not so. Those not working, the housewives and pensioners, were no more likely to favour the tax increase option than those working, and 53 per cent of those unemployed or unable to work were actually less likely to favour the option.

Plain speaking

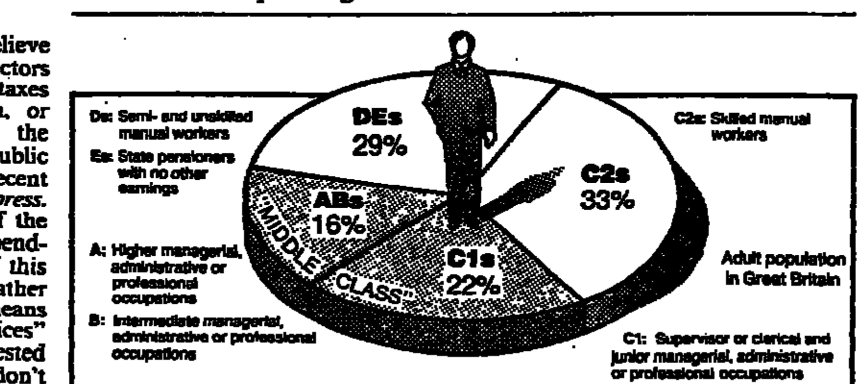
The Prime Minister has said she prefers "denationalization" to "privatization". But what's in a word? One of the psephological/semantic discoveries pollsters have made over the years is that no matter how the politicians play with words over the issues of nationalization, the public seems to know clearly what is meant.

A decade ago, when MORI measured support for "nationalization", it was contended that "nationalization was a dirty word" and that we would get very different results if "public ownership" were used instead. Intrigued by this, we used a split ballot technique, asking half of a sample of the public the degree to which they thought companies should be nationalized, and the other half whether or not companies should be taken into public ownership, holding everything constant except the two alternative phrases. We found virtually no difference.

More recently, privatization has been the Government's code word for denationalization. On a recent similar survey, MORI found little difference in public reaction to the two words.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: PUBLIC OPINION



The ABC guide to social class

There are frequent references in stories of psephological or sociological bent that refer to social class designations in Britain. There is nothing sinister about this and it is true that many people do not believe themselves to be in a social class or if they do, consider it to be irrelevant. It is a useful demographic classification for marketing and sociological purposes however. Traditionally, social class is based on and used constantly in this way by researchers operating under definitions used by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising (IPA).

So-called ABs are defined as the higher managerial, administrative or professional occupations (A) or intermediate managerial, administrative or professional occupations (B). C1, lower middle-class, are "supervisor or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional". The ABs represent approximately 16 per cent of the adult population in Great Britain and the C1s 22 per cent, thus making up the 38 per cent or so of the "middle-class". The other two-thirds (62 per cent) are classified as skilled manual workers (C2s, 33 per cent) and DEs who are semi-and unskilled manual workers (Ds) and state pensioners with no other earnings (Es).

Income plays no part in this classification, nor does education, lifestyle, the kind of car you drive, nor how you pronounce certain words. The definition of A includes fully qualified people, working in law, the church, medicine or those with a chartered profession such as architects or chartered accountants and senior civil servants. University professors are included, as are directors of large companies, managers of large factories, stores or banks. MPs are As as are police superintendents and chief constables. C2s, by contrast, are the plumbers, electricians, working farmers, toolmakers and others who we cannot do without.

Swing factors

During elections we hear a lot about the concept of "swing", which is the percentage (number of people out of 100) who have changed over between two elections or indeed two points in time. Two examples are in the news at the moment. The swing measured by Gallup against British Telecom's privatization between December and October is 6½ per cent, calculated by the net change between those thinking privatization a "good idea" and those who think it bad.

More recently, a MORI poll taken just after the American invasion of Grenada found a swing of 4 per cent against siting cruise missiles here since a similar question was asked in May during the election.

Military support

Fifty-three per cent of the British public are in favour of the multinational military force, drawn from Britain, France, Italy and the United States being stationed in the Lebanon. A third (32 per cent) are opposed, according to a MORI poll taken less than a week after the bombing that killed over 200 American and French troops stationed there. And while 52 per cent opposed the US invasion of Grenada at the time, after the fact 47 per cent thought that the British government should support the presence of US troops there; 38 per cent thought it should be opposed. This "post facto" phenomenon was also seen at the time of the Falklands; after the task force sailed there was a sharp rise in the public's support for action.

Euro-apathy

A recent Euro-Barometer survey, published by the Commission of the European Communities, reports on a survey carried out across the member countries in March and April 1983.

The lack of both interest in and enthusiasm for the European Community in this country is explained largely by the answers to a single question reported in the survey.

Only 32 per cent of people in the United Kingdom feel that Britain has benefited from membership. This compares with 78 per cent of the Dutch, 69 per cent of Italians and over half of the people in Belgium, Denmark, France and Ireland. The majority (57 per cent) of people in the United Kingdom feels this country has has the short end of the stick. Whatever the reality is, it is the perceptions that count in assessing public opinion.

Robert Worcester

The author is chairman of MORI. Details of fieldwork, dates and sample sizes are reported in Public Opinion Newsletter, *published by the firm.*

BOOKS

Sir John Plumb and Piers Brendon review the big biographies of the week: Albert the Good and Birkenhead the Bad

The jury is still out on Albert

Albert Prince Consort
By Robert Rhodes James
(Hamish Hamilton, £12.50)

The day of death kept sacred with the visit to the Mausoleum with her daughters: his gold watch ticking away the night at Osborne even as she lay dying: remembrances everywhere. Making every allowance for the excessive passion which Queen Victoria brought to everything she said or felt, no-one can doubt or, indeed, has ever doubted, the love which Victoria felt for Albert from that first morning when she asked him to marry her, kissing him over and over again on his acceptance. She loved him body, heart and mind. Her love gave her remarkable insights into his problems and difficulties, that he could never be her husband in the true Victorian sense of the word. No matter how besotted with his beauty, Victoria was Queen and knew it. He had to take the secretaries appointed for him; he had to wait before he was allowed to see any confidential papers; he was discouraged from speaking to ministers on all matters political. From the start, as Robert Rhodes James makes so plain in his excellent biography, his position was one of exceptional difficulty for a very young, inexperienced Prince who disliked the climate, the habits and the people amongst whom he had come to live.

Fortunately he was a man of quite exceptional gifts – he had talent for everything he turned his hand to – and perhaps fortunately not quite genius for anything. As it was he found the difficulties of his position and of Queen Victoria's temperament almost impossible to bear as may be seen from one terrible outburst on his daughter Victoria's illness, printed by Rhodes James, that escaped the destruction of his more intimate personal papers. Lacking the over-riding egocentric drive of genius, his talents acted both as a distraction and as an emollient in his complex life – but how remarkable they were. He composed good music, from *Te Deums* to charming *lieder*; he designed jewellery and the Victoria Cross (which was also his idea) as well as palaces and cottages; he drew and etched, if not quite so well as his wife; he became passionately involved with the role of arts and sciences in the life of the nation and we owe to him the acres of museums in South Kensington. He was artistically adventurous, collecting early Italian Renaissance pictures long before they were fashionable but saw at once the beauty and originality of Paxton's ultra modern Crystal Palace: his support of the revival of fresco painting was admirable in intent if less successful in its expression.

The problems of being married to the Queen: Albert surrounded by her family, an engraving from Winterhalter's painting of 1846

Steadily and remorselessly he took his rightful place in the political affairs of the nation: he as much as anyone was responsible for preventing the "Trent" affair becoming a war-issue at the time of the American Civil War by drafting a memorandum for Victoria more or less on his death-bed.

He was intelligent, wise, gifted, handsome beyond the common run of princes, and yet what popularity he had was wrung reluctantly from the nation he served. His accomplishments are even more remarkable when we recall that he was dead at 42. His life is a wonderful subject for a biography and Rhodes James weaves sympathetically and with skill the rich tapestry of his activities. He also destroys a number of myths that have clouded some historians' vision of the Prince Consort. His childhood was far, far from being unhappy – indeed the reverse in spite of the disaster that his parents made of their marriage. Rhodes James also shows how capable Albert was of very deep and strong affections from childhood onwards. And yet there is no doubt that his zest for living had almost gone by the time he was 40 – indeed Queen Victoria who loved being alive, quickly recognized that Albert did not.

And so there is the enigma of the extraordinary man, so gifted, so successful, yet lacking the desire to live. Without deeply intimate personal papers no one can do anything but hazard a guess why, considering both his talents and his position. Albert lost his lust for life. Perhaps he never had much.

Rhodes James gives us all the evidence but does not impose his own solution. One can only guess – for myself I think that Albert may have been a deeply narcissistic character, meaning that in no pejorative sense. But often narcissistic characters find passionate devotion such as Albert got from Victoria hard at times to bear, yet his image of himself as a model and virtuous prince, his most treasured possession, forced him to bear it. But one could so easily be wrong. Read this fascinating biography and see if you can find the key to this extraordinary complex man, certainly the most gifted and talented of British Consorts, and in some ways still the most mysterious.

A fluent and plausible bounder

F. E. Smith
First Earl of Birkenhead
By John Campbell
(Cape, £30)

So many history books are published these days in which every paragraph, sometimes every sentence, screams for revision, that it is tempting to believe that the practice of writing coherent English is dying out among historians, as it has long since died out among literary critics. What a joy, then, to find a young scholar producing over 800 pages of trenchant and often vivid prose with scarcely a stylistic hiccup in sight. True, John Campbell's case for writing such an excessively long biography is not justified by the intrinsic importance of his subject. But his *manner triumphantly* sustains his matter.

In a sense, this was also true of the character and career of F. E. Smith, though Dr Campbell is perhaps too much his partisan to admit it. Smith got by on superficial brilliance rather than substantial ability. He was always superbly self-confident – as a schoolboy he was kicked by his fellows for announcing that he was going to be Lord Chancellor. At Oxford he slicked down his hair, eradicted his Lancastrian accent, and became a "howling swell" at the Union, on the rugby field and in the academic sphere, all accomplished with dazzling panache.

Then followed his speedy and richly-rewarded rise at the bar, though he starred in no great cases (except as prosecuting Attorney General in the trial of Sir Roger Casement), and was quite willing to betray a client, as he did while supposedly acting for Lever against Northcliffe, when it was in his political interest to do so. Yet, Campbell argues, Smith was a serious scholar and "a truly great lawyer". Raymond Asquith's estimation of Smith as "a most fluent and plausible bounder" seems more apt.

Of course, there is no denying Smith's *immediate* success in the House of Commons, which he entered in 1906. His celebrated *maiden* speech so delighted his own side that (as a journalist noticed) for a while even Carson looked almost human. Yet from hindsight his rhetoric seems largely a compendium of cheap gibes and impudent special pleading, the effectiveness of which was mainly due to the unexpected fillip it gave to Tory morale after the Liberal landslide. Similarly, when one examines the content of Smith's political philosophy it turns out to be a dismal, clichéd form of neo-Darwinism. Smith thought might was right in Ireland, regarded women as male playthings who should not have the vote, and would not take Indians seriously at all.

Such views proved no bar to rapid progress *in Parliament* and Smith eagerly grasped each glittering prize as it presented itself. By 1919, when he was only 47, he had landed (as Lord Birkenhead) on the Woolsack. "Should I be as drunk as a lord," he supposedly asked (his *bons mots* were embellished by himself and others), "or as sober as a judge?" He was a bit of both, an outstanding Lord Chancellor who distributed the ecclesiastical patronage in his gift on the basis of the cricketing skills of the clerics concerned. No really solid political achievement can be credited to Smith, unless it was his contribution to the treaty with Sinn Fein in *1921*. After that date his arrogance and boorishness became almost unbearable, even to members of his own party. By 1930 he had drunk himself into an early grave.

No doubt Smith was a convivial creature – part Regency rake, part Edwardian adventurer – in the toping, cigar-smoking, clubbable society which he so loved. John Buchan called him "Aristotle's Magnificent Man". Churchill described their friendship as perfect, though even he, a fellow member of the ignoble freemasonry of bullies, was in awe of Smith's crushing power of repartee. A frequent victim was Jimmy Thomas, who once complained of having "an 'ell of an 'eadache". Smith advised him to "try a couple of aspirates". When the tables were turned, incidentally, and Smith was caricatured by Low as "Lord Burstinghead", he was not amused. He complained bitterly to Beaverbrook about being daily presented as "a crapulous and corpulent buffoon" by this "filthy little Socialist".

Like the excellent biographer he is, Campbell does not blink at facts hostile to Smith though he comes down broadly in defence of "the real F. E.". However the mass of evidence which he has accumulated might more plausibly be said to bear out the Asquithian view – that Smith was brilliant but unsound, a clever cad whose "brains had gone to his head".

The Smith a mighty man was he: brilliant but unsound, a clever cad whose brains had gone to his head

Woodrow Flits By

The World of Uncle Fred
By P. G. Wodehouse
(Hutchinson, £9.95)

Wodehouse Nuggets
Selected by Richard Usborne
(Hutchinson, £6.95)

Uncle Fred deserves to be better known. Perhaps not in the class of Lord Emsworth, Jeeves or Bertie Wooster, he ranks somewhere near Psmith and above *Ukridge*. In 1936 in a short story *Uncle Fred Flits By* Wodehouse released him from his brain. Like so many Wodehouse characters he seems to have been lurking there all the time, not so much waiting to be invented as waiting impatiently for his cue to come on stage. Three years passed before his impresario gave him his first full length performance, nine and ten years respectively before his next two, and another four years before his last, in 1962, though Wodehouse still had thirteen years left to tell us more if he had not been so stingy with Uncle Fred.

Uncle Fred was a natural genius at solving problems. Jeeves solved his by deep thought, drawing on all his great learning and, according to Bertie Wooster, eating a great deal of fish to keep the brain lively. *Uncle* Fred's approach was entirely spontaneous, relying heavily on his favourite weapon: impersonation. He felt it unsporting to visit suburban villas or a country house under *his own* name. He liked to lure others into the impersonation job, too.

All Uncle Fred's optimistic plans to iron out difficulties began by making them far more complicated. Heroes and heroines found themselves entangled in growing webs of deception from which escape became less and less likely. But escape they did with Uncle Fred pulling off sanguine coups at the moment even the most trusting of Wodehouse fans is beginning to wonder whether they really can be pulled.

Shakespeare's characters are as memorable as Wodehouse's, but the latter's plots are much better. I have no difficulty in believing nearly everything in Wodehouse but I am hard put to it to understand the extraordinary behaviour of Hamlet, et al. Uncle Fred *is* a perpetual undergraduate eagerly looking for fun, whether sober or semi-inebriated, and with a strong bent for doing good however much harm it causes. Bill Bailey, a penniless curate in *Service with a Smile* (sadly not included in the Omnibus) may go through the tortures of Dante's *Inferno* having his disguise as Cuthbert Meriwether from Brazil penetrated by Lady Constance at Blandings Castle, but the angel Uncle Fred, responsible for his predicament, will put him out of his torment and win him Myra, the American heiress in the end.

Why did Wodehouse not arrange for Uncle Fred's wife, Jane (who understandably broke off their engagement eight times) to allow her closely guarded husband more outings? It couldn't have been concern for Jane because none of his escapades inconvenienced her though they shattered his nephew Pongo. Nor does Wodehouse ever *tell* us what really happened at the Dog Races when Pongo and Uncle Fred were arrested and gave false names and addresses which led to disaster for both of them in *Uncle Dynamite*, when they were recognized by the same Constable Potter, now on duty in the country, who had arrested them at the famous but unchronicled incident.

Only once does Uncle Fred behave out of character. He was an innocent snob who loved to *proclaim*, when not pretending to be someone else, that he was the 5th Earl of Ickenham and to recite the glories attaching to that privileged position. But in *Cocktail Time*, when quite sober, he tries to persuade Albert Peasemarch, Sir Raymond Bastable's butler, to call him Fred. True he had known Albert when he was a ship's steward and had served in the Home Guard with him, and Albert was eventually to marry Sir Raymond's sister, but was it proper for Uncle Fred to want the butler to address him by his Christian name? Albert evidently thought not, compromising with, when he could remember it, "Mr I".

Uncle Fred ambles among the aphorisms in *Wodehouse Nuggets* compiled by that accomplished Wodehouse scholar, Richard Usborne. This publication proves that there are almost as many quotations in Wodehouse as there are in Shakespeare. It should be kept by the side of Richard Usborne's *A Wodehouse Companion*. Many a winter evening can be passed cosily matching its neat synopses of Wodehouse's books and summing up of the characters with their illuminating sayings in *Wodehouse Nuggets*.

Woodrow Wyatt

Fiction

Despair and black humour from Poland

A Minor Apocalypse
By Tadeusz Konwicki
(Faber, £8.95)

The Compromise
By Sergei Dovlatov
(Chatto & Windus, £7.95)

A man with his mouth open, seen at a distance, in Poland perhaps, might be laughing, protesting, shouting in a nightmare, or howling with pain. Tadeusz Konwicki is doing all at once. *A Minor Apocalypse* is a visceral jeer, a surreal yell at conditions in Warsaw, where resistance is as necessary as it is futile. The writer hero is instructed by two dissidents to set himself on fire with a can of petrol outside the Palace of Culture that night. The novel is the story of his day wandering towards his fate through the streets, his memories, and his encounters with other writers, secret policemen and film directors such as a disguised Andrzej Wajda.

The book is nastily funny. The rattle of dry mirth is also a death rattle. Echoes of Céline sound in the flaking, falling, occupied city, where even survival is a black joke. Arguments of twisted dialectic show truth in a distorting and dirty mirror. It is a time of noble doubts, blessed uncertainty, divine mediocrity, when to have a character is tyranny. Nobody has even the inner strength or moral right to be a beggar. There would be hardly any sense in dividing the match that will light the petrol that will burn the hero. "Scarcely every third one lights as it is."

A Minor Apocalypse is a minor masterpiece of rage and despair from Eastern Europe. Poland must immolate itself to be free, but what price immolation when the Poles are already free because they have imposed their own slavery? At the end, before the final pyre of himself, the writer has a vision of a God created by people in all their suffering and complexity. From that God of people may come the only mercy that Poland may expect.

"An honest journalist only sells out once." Sergei Dovlatov attributes the remark to the guru Henry Ford. It is not true in Estonia. There the comrade reporters sell out at full blast daily. "A journalist says sincerely what he does not believe." Each episode in *The Compromise* begins with the official printed story in *Estonian Youth* or *Soviet Estonia*, then tells the truth of how the story was written by its anarchic, drunken correspondent. He finds himself carrying the coffin of the wrong dignitary to the official burial ground or passing over the infant of a Marxist Ethiopian and of a Jew in order to report the birth of a suitable worker child as the 400,000th citizen of Tallinn.

Figures are relative in Russian Estonia. The certainty is vodka, vodka, vodka all the way to the next hangover. This series of connected stories about reporting in a Communist colony is hilarious and reassuring. Inefficiency is fatal, organization absent, untruth all, and the Party Line knotted. The road to death, the narrator observes, is paved with meaningless news briefs.

The Natural Man by Ed McClanahan (*Cape, £7.95*) is heralded by a nether fanfare of distinguished critical noises from the United States. The abominable hulk Monk McHorning erupts into a Kentucky small town. He can shoot more pool and baskets and break more heads and wind than any teenager in living memory. His scribe is the adolescent girl-crazy Harry Eastep, who chronicles the earth exploits and smutty wisecracks of the Monk.

Harry is not Holden Caulfield. His language is both elegant and overstated while his dialogue would shame a barnyard. This is hardly *The Catcher in the Rye*, although it might well be called *Comin' Through the Rye*. So single-minded is Harry about a time when his body should meet a body – in this case, the body of the overwhelming Monk. Ed McClanahan is a natural writer, and his evocation of small-town nostalgia and lust is very amusing and curiously endearing.

Don Bueno is a novel of a Brazilian Oedipus. A male child is always born to a deserted woman. Whatever his true name, whatever evil he has done, he will be called Don Bueno. He will then travel for no good reason after begetting another male baby. *He will* meet his fate, which is to kill accidentally a crazy old man, who has provoked him into the killing and whispers his son's name with his last breath.

Zulfikar Ghose writes with erotic power and malevolent observation. In the jungle, jaguars mate in torment, screaming and tearing at each other. Human beings are no different, burning with desire and brooding lust. They are doomed by the fierceness of their want. Years of good actions are denied by one mad rape. Carnality rules. *Don Bueno* is not a journey into the heart of darkness, but into the fatality of sexual need and its retribution.

Andrew Sinclair

Science fiction

Topsy-turvy worlds

Midas World
By Frederick Pohl
(Gollancz, £7.95)

Here is a conceit stretched to the limits of tolerance as metaphor, a filigree of caprice hardened to take the weight of social satire. The veteran science-fictioneer Frederick Pohl just about makes it work. Because of a new form of energy and the emergence of robot-power the world's inhabitants become victims of a spend-spend-spend economy. The poor are those who have to fulfil spending quotas; the rich are those freed of such obligations.

In describing a consuming society that has become a consumed society Pohl is giving a harder shove to an idea he first nudged in *Midas Plague*. In this he uses narrative segments to illustrate the decline of the human race – young marrieds from the different classes are nearly sundered by too many worldly goods; the final robotic destiny when organic humans are considered racially alien.

The topsy-turvy theme is built on a basically one-notion base, from which it might topple with one unsure touch. But the skill and integrity of its contrivance ensure that doesn't happen. The wit and characterization keep us involved. But the laughter is that of alarm.

His Master's Voice, by Stanislaw Lem *(Secker and Warburg, £7.95)*. The great fabulist expressing "a genuine conviction, no less genuine for being absurd" as dubious random tables of numbers seem to be about to upset our concept of the Universe. Investigating scientists prove that there's as vast a space between people as between stars and there's a neat side-swipe at the "Chariots Of The Gods?" mentality. A rarefied treat.

Tik-Tok, by John Sladek *(Gollancz, £7.95)*. Deprived of Asimov-circuitry our robot-hero goes on a killing spree through Middle America of an ebony-hued hilarity. The frenzy of the telling becomes a bit wearing but there is an explosive comic ease here which can turn a whoopee! cushion into an electric chair.

Best Science Fiction Of The Year, 12, edited by Terry Carr *(Gollancz, £9.95)*. The yearly feast with Establishment writing by such as Silverberg, Le Guinn and Disch interleaved with newcomers of high potential. Terry Carr's thoughtful introduction of SF is a bonus in what would be a marvellous Christmas gift for all addicts.

Stargate, by Pauline Gedge *(Penguin, £1.95)*. The sun-lords become mortal to save their worlds, fearing the wrath of the World-Maker. The Eden-myth extended into fantasy, beautifully controlled.

Golden Witchbreed, by Mary Gentle *(Gollancz, £8.95)*. Despite a forest of daunting italics on nearly every page to emphasize new words, the new world of Orthe is a distinct and positive creation. An entwining narrative of subtle power; as smooth-sailing as a *jath* (double-masted ocean-going vessel, usually with lateen sails).

Tom Hutchinson

Christmas Books

In Saturday's *Times* our menu of books for Christmas includes browsing and swilling, ghost stories for the season, books about the upper crust and royals, travellers tales, children's books, funnies, show business, London and Paris, and picture books.

Awaking in the middle of a snore, Scrooge sits up in bed for *Times* Christmas Books. Michael Foreman's illustration for *A Christmas Carol* (Gollancz, £5.95)

The palimpsest of Londinium

London
City of the Romans
By Ralph Merrifield
(Batsford, £14.95)

The central and most obvious difficulty in studying a single Roman town, in northern Europe at least, is that if it was more than ordinarily successful (and so worth studying) it is likely to have turned into a medieval town and in due course a modern one, with the result that such of its buildings as are not completely destroyed will have been incorporated in, or buried beneath, up to 20 centuries of later development. Given reasonable luck we may have a stretch of its defensive wall, perhaps a gate, and its internal plan may be partly discernible in the modern pattern of streets.

More than this is a bonus, and in order to set such fragments into any kind of physical or historical context the archaeologist must await the pleasure of gas and electricity boards, highways departments and municipal and private developers, sneaking in when one building is demolished and before another is built, recording what he can in the limited time available and working out its significance later when it is too late to go back and check. There will be some areas of minor importance of which he will know a great deal, and others quite central and crucial of which he will know nothing. To say that this is like doing a jigsaw with nine-tenths of the pieces (and the picture) missing is to understate the problem: it is like doing about five such jigsaws one on top of another and being prevented most of the time from taking the lid off the box.

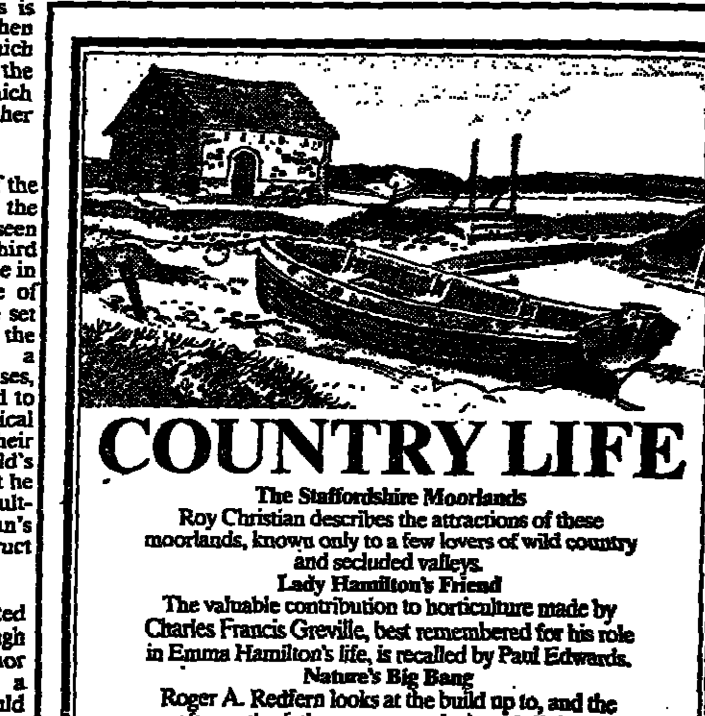
That Mr Merrifield is rather good at this game should come as no surprise: he worked for many years at the Guildhall Museum and the new Museum of London, and this is his fourth book on the subject since 1965. Its framework is essentially chronological except for a chapter on the hinterland of London and its road network, and the period covered is that from the pre-London Iron Age to the sixth century and beyond. A historical rather than a topographical approach presents problems for both author and reader, in that the material available varies greatly from one phase to another not only in amount but in ease of interpretation. In this respect the earlier chapters, in which the questions are more basic (What was the administrative status of London? When did it actually begin?), are more satisfying, even if the evidence is scarce and fragmentary.

Later on, when the physical remains are more extensive, the questions become more specific and the perspective correspondingly narrower. Much of the difficulty arises from the desire to date things very precisely: because we are dealing with a single city we wish to know what happened from one decade to another, and this is rarely possible, since even when we come across objects to which precise dates can be given the dating of the buildings in which they occur is quite another matter.

The results of this (and of the general unevenness of the material) are most clearly seen in the chapter on the third century: evidence of a decline in population and a shrinkage of the area occupied has to be set against the construction of the famous Mithraeum and a number of prosperous houses, and both have to be married to what we know of the political events of the century and their likely effects. Mr Merrifield's great quality in all this is that he neither understates the difficulties nor dodges the historian's responsibility to construct hypotheses.

The book is well illustrated and nicely presented, though there are a number of minor misprints. If one were in a mood to complain one would lament the lack of a map on which the main Roman features are superimposed on the modern street plan: those of us who do not live and work in the City are apt to get lost in the back streets, and the *A to Z* is not much help.

John Percival



THE TIMES DIARY

Dynasty's top table

This may not be to Equity's liking. Filming of a new series of *Dynasty*, the searing saga of lipglossed folk, has just been completed in America. Appearing in small but meaningful roles are Henry Kissinger and Gerry and Betty Ford. All three will be playing themselves, but how these serious political people will fit into the lives of the wicked tycoons and their molls who make up *Dynasty's* cast is not clear. Since we are a year behind America in the *Dynasty* schedule, it could be many more months before Kissinger and the Fords show up on BBC1.

Doubling up

In the revival of RSC's *Poppy* at the Adelphi, losers in a competition win two tickets to the National Theatre's ill-starred musical *Jean Seberg*, which provokes much merriment among the audience. But the musical's composer Marvin Hamlisch was unamused and there was talk of injunctions. "He calmed down when it was explained it was just a joke," says the RSC. One of *Poppy's* cast has, however, now suggested changing the line: the losers win *four* tickets to *Jean Seberg*.

● **Department of Employment officials are making a determined attempt to aid the jobless in South Yorkshire, an unemployment black-spot. Barnsley's job centre, devoid of the more traditional jobs, has been advertising for a trained diamond cutter to work in Los Angeles.**

Torn off a strip

No one comes out of this story too well. While appearing in Berne, members of the Kirov Ballet and the accompanying Leningrad Orchestra came under suspicion by the Swiss police and were made to submit to a body search. The Moscow paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* has subsequently accused the police of "almost unbelievable, scandalous, insulting behaviour". The police explanation is that a crime had been committed and a shopgirl thought she recognized two of the Russians near the scene. "Can you believe it," thundered the *Gazeta*. "How would they like to be asked to strip naked on the evidence of a shopgirl?"

Deep frieze

We can let the Greeks have the Elgin Marbles after all – we've got a spare set. Lord Elgin's secretary, William Hamilton, perhaps anticipating future trouble, took casts of the marbles which he kept in his King's Road house, which now belongs to Chelsea College of Art. The room in which the marbles form a frieze was recently redecorated a deep blue. "It's a bit like standing inside a Wedgwood bowl", says the college secretary.

● **The inner sanctum of the Suffolk Constabulary HQ near Ipswich has been violated. Two armed bandits raided the one-armed bandits at the police social club on Saturday night, making off with the cash. A spokeswoman described the break-in as a bit cheeky. So far, no arrests have been made.**

G(n)ome missing

East Hampshire police have issued descriptions of six little people abducted from their home in Headley Down. The constabulary are looking out for "one gnome fishing, one naked woman, two gnomes dancing and two gnomes holding hands, plus a mushroom".

BARRY FANTONI

'And what am I bid for lot 94, should it turn up?'

Back to basics

Brooke Shields, star of truly terrible movies like *Endless Love* and *The Blue Lagoon*, has enrolled at Princeton University for a course which is described by the college as "a workshop at the basic level, designed to introduce students to some of the requirements of acting." Not a moment too soon.

● **Our old friend, the English translator for the Hotel Bayerischerhof in Munich, is at it again. Mr David Froome, dining in the hotel's restaurant, managed to avoid "stewed angler on leek".**

Pressing issue

Although the GLC drapes a banner over County Hall proclaiming the number of unemployed in London, its own bi-monthly give-away newspaper, *The Londoner*, is printed in Plymouth. "We are desperate to get a London printer," says the editor, Wes Whitehouse. "The last time we put it up for tender, 13 London firms were invited to quote. Six did not reply. Six declined to quote and the one tender that was submitted was incomplete."

PHS

Tax cuts, but not just yet

As ministers join in criticism of planned reductions in public spending, the Chancellor, Nigel Lawson (right), tells Kenneth Fleet and Frances Williams that health and welfare expectations must match economic reality

Q. There appears to be a fundamental division in the country, as in government and Parliament, over the question of whether the majority prefers lower taxes or higher public spending. Which side are you on?

A. *Public opinion is difficult to read, simply from looking at opinion polls. They say: Would you prefer to pay higher taxes in order to have a better health service? A lot of people say yes. But that is simply because they think the higher taxation will be paid by somebody else. They don't think it will be paid by them but that* they will get the benefit from a better health service. In fact, when there is any suggestion – as you saw a few days ago – of an increase in taxation then howls go up all over the place.

I think the public would like to see lower taxation, and I think a lower burden of taxation is necessary to get the best out of the economy, particularly for those on below-average earnings. For people right at the bottom of the income scale the amount taken out of their pay packets in taxation is too high. People recognize this. As far as public expenditure is concerned, we're not cutting the health service – which is the cause of most of the emotion: spending on the health service is increasing steadily in real terms. You've seen this in the Autumn Statement.

If people want health care spending to rise still faster in the country as a whole – and I'm now taking the longer view (we've achieved a satisfactory outcome of the public expenditure review not just for 1984-85 but for 1985-86 and 1986-87) – then we have to ask ourselves: do we want this to be tax-financed? Aren't there better ways of doing it – either by the private sector taking a bigger chunk of the total amount of health care and/or a bigger National Health Service seeking ways of financing itself other than through taxation? These are the sort of questions we've got to address ourselves to and they show the possibility of increasing health care, not cutting back. Nothing would cut back potential growth further than the view that every singe penny has to be financed by the taxpayer. We're going to come to a point when the working population which pays the bulk of the tax is going to feel that it's not prepared to pay any more. . .

What is your philosophy about the future of public spending, what strategy would you like to see? I'm sure that you as Chancellor, have views on the future path that public spending should take, not just in the aggregate.

I think there are two basic views come together. One is that we want to see public expenditure take a steadily smaller proportion of gross domestic product over a period of years. This has been happening since 1981, when it reached a peak during our government, and is projected to come down further in 1984-85.

To reduce public spending as a proportion of gross domestic product, is it essential in your view that there should be this shift from publicly to privately financed services?

It's not essential, but I think that it is a desirable way to achieve it. You could just say that health and the rest should remain as they are, fully in the public sector, with just so much money and no more. To a certain extent you have to do that anyway. But it's much more sensible to encourage the growth of private provision, so that the people are able to spend their money on what they most want to spend it on. And that is achieved by giving an opportunity for the private sector to meet a demand if an unsatisfied demand exists.

Have you any specific ideas on how you might encourage private provision? Would you consider tax incentives or reliefs?

There are enormous tax incentives for pensions at the present time, though not for health care and education. That is one of the things we are discussing and looking into at the moment – there is a whole range of things we have to look at as part of long-term thinking.

The implications of what you've said about public spending suggests that you see the role of the private sector as providing improvements to existing services. Does that mean that some of the more radical options that were being canvassed before the election, which would actually involve cuts in provision by the public sector in order to make room for increased provision by the private sector, are no longer being considered? I'm referring to some of the "Think Tank" proposals such as education vouchers and an insurance-financed health service.

The "Think Tank" report was its own responsibility – I don't think it's helpful particularly to hark back to that. But undoubtedly in our look at the longer term we shall have to consider a number of options. I can't tell you which. No decisions have been taken.

But we can't assume that because the Think Tank report was shelved at the time that the options it presented will not come up for consideration again. Is there no question of cutting public spending?

Anything that has been ruled out publicly has been ruled out. Realistically I think that although particular items of public expenditure can be cut, the totality of public expenditure is most unlikely to be reduced in real terms. But if we can hold the total level of public expenditure constant in real terms over a period of years, that would give me all the headroom needed to reduce the burden of taxation over a period of years, and enable us to have the rate of growth which we all want to see.

Your Autumn Statement provoked some extreme reactions, especially over the suggestion of tax increases in the next Budget. Were you surprised at the response?

The fact that there might be a need to increase taxes in the next Budget took some people by surprise. But the plain fact is that our fiscal policy is gradually to reduce the size of the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) as a proportion of gross domestic product. And if, to do that, it is necessary to increase taxation, then everybody knows we will do that. We did it in the last Parliament and we will do it in this Parliament. *Obviously it would be nicer if the* problem didn't arise. But the best forecast we can make at the moment – and I emphasize the enormous margin of uncertainty involved suggests that to get back to the Medium Term Financial Strategy figure of £8bn, a slight increase in taxation would be needed. It would have been far more serious, I must say, if the impression had been given that we are no longer concerned about the size of the PSBR.

The prospect for reductions on taxation is still there, but at the present time it doesn't look a lively prospect for 1984. If public expenditure is held to the figures for the next three years, there will be the possibility of tax cuts further ahead.

Did you intend the statement about possible tax increases to be a shock? Was it a crude political ploy?

It wasn't a crude political ploy, but I think that it is necessary that people's expectations match the realities of the situation. In the past – I'm now talking about previous governments – one of the biggest problems we faced in this country was the huge gulf between expectations and reality. And one of the things we've sought to do in the economic field ever since 1979 is to close that gap so that expectations match reality.

Ronald Butt

Give local electors a higher rating

It is now a common cry on the left (with the right at best uneasily taciturn on the question) that Mrs Thatcher's government is the most centrist and interventionist for many decades. Coming from socialists – those whose rigidly statist modes of thinking have usually been closer to the ideology prevailing east of the Elbe than to our own notion of democracy – the charge seems bizarre. It is not, however, entirely false on that account.

The Tories have always believed in as much local responsibility and freedom from central control as is consistent with their belief in parliamentary sovereignty. Local voluntary political and unpolitical work has always been dear to Tory instincts. The town hall is a great safety-valve for a party which does not believe that the man in Whitehall knows best. Yet Mrs Thatcher is both planning to obliterate substantial segments of the local authority structure, and to deprive local councils of the right to raise rates as they choose.

Of course, there is logic in both intentions. In face of the Conservatives' efforts to cut central government contributions to local finance, current spending has gone up, and the power to levy rates has been used to confound central control of the economy overall. The Conservatives have long disliked the rating system as unfair, but have been forced to conclude that there is no acceptable substitute for it. Their solution is to restrict the rate-raising power, and also to abolish the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan counties to promote efficiency and cut costs.

The government bases its case for abolition on the argument that the councils marked for abolition have no real function and that their responsibility for fire, transport services and (outside London) police can be better undertaken by joint local boards and statutory bodies. But what has given zeal to the Tory attack on the metropolitan authorities has been dislike of the use *Labour politicians make of these bodies as rival power bases from* which to launch raids into national politics.

Indeed, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has said as much. The condemned authorities (which he has described as mostly "Marxist-fed") are disliked because some of their leaders (most skilfully Mr Ken Livingstone of the GLC) have gone outside the traditional reserve of local government. They have challenged central government policy and used their position to campaign on such national questions as defence and the economy and to make national names for themselves.

The central government's dislike of rival political power bases is not a disreputable instinct. Historically, central government in England has always distrusted feudal rivals. Our ancient unitary state, in which the sovereign's writ runs everywhere and equally for everyone, has been founded on the authority of the crown in parliament. It has leaned heavily on local action (traditionally expressed through the shire and its officials and justices of the peace), but all their power was derived from the crown. In a sense that is also true of the contemporary local authority, which has no rights as such. Virtually everything it does is empowered by act of parliament, and what parliament has granted it can take away.

Why then should it not take away from Mr Livingstone the power that he has operated like an over-mighty baron, challenging Westminster, than in the spirit of the crown's sheriff? There is no reason, providing that something less costly can be arranged to give better expression to local opinion on matters of importance to people that are locally administered. The Government, however, is curiously insensitive on this point, and that worries many Conservatives.

In London, Tories argue with some reason that the death of the GLC, with no elected substitute, will deprive the capital city of a "voice". Mrs Thatcher would reply (in the best tradition of English government) that there is no virtue in a body that can talk but do nothing. The strength of Parliament, after all, is that it always debates knowing that it can do anything. However, as a sop it seems that the disoriented Tory members of the GLC will be offered something like a statutory version of the London Boroughs Association as a voice for London, though whether with any authority to do anything more than consult is unclear.

Yet that is an inadequate response to the real problem. Of course, there is no reason to mourn the GLC and the metropolitan counties. The lack of a public outcry against their abolition is evidence of the widespread understanding that local responsibility is largely a charade; that local authorities can only spend (however wastefully) on functions laid on them by Westminster, and are essentially dependant on Westminster money. (Even Mr Livingstone can spend only up to a 2p rate on his notorious support for the peculiar minority groups that enjoy his patronage). The often criticized tendency of voters to use local elections to pronounce a verdict on the Westminster government is a sign of their sophisticated understanding. They know where the real power is.

Even so, the ability of local opinion to influence locally taken decisions does matter. There is a *frustrated urge for local accountability of strictly local decisions and* the Government is foolish not to heed it.

It is, for instance, foolish to replace the abolished Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) by appointed borough representatives instead of by a directly elected body. An elected ILEA could be a model for other elected bodies to manage functions of welfare that are organized locally under the authority of central government. It is argued that there can be no real local autonomy without local revenue-raising. But is this necessarily so?

Why should not money for education and other functions of local importance be allocated on an equalizing basis from the centre and then spent by locally elected bodies, who might be allowed to "top up" by levying a small extra rate locally, and then account to local opinion for it? Why should not the same principle apply in various forms to fire services, transport, and ultimately (in a refashioned NHS) to health?

Local government as it now exists is a largely empty vessel, much misused, and the government is sensible to try to reform it. But it would be in the proper traditions of Toryism to try to rebuild local influence into local administration, in a manner that befits the changed circumstances of our time. A start could have been made with an elected ILEA instead of the body of borough nominees which it announced this week.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

The fine art of faking good

Forger, and proud of it: Tom Keating and Constable look-alike

Last week a Manet was sold at Christie's in New York for $4m. The same auction house, it is announced, is to sell in London some of the works of Mr Tom Keating, including pictures bearing his own signature as well as ones more imaginatively signed with names such as Titian and Rembrandt. (Reader, do not leap to conclusions; these may be perfectly genuine paintings by Nigel Titian and Kevin Rembrandt – artists less well known than their namesakes, perhaps, but not to be condemned out of hand for that.)

The first thing to be said is not the most important, but it might as well be said nevertheless: it is that I wouldn't half laugh if the Manet turned out to be by Mr Keating too. I shall not dwell upon the well-known disparity between what great artists of the past earned for their work and what dealers in those works now make out of them, because in the first place the argument is too worn, and in the second place if is largely spurious anyway, being usually employed for denunciations of the consumer society by artists who couldn't draw a triangle, never mind a real picture. Anyway, D. B. Wyndham Lewis said the last word from that point of view a long time ago:

Manet made so little monet,
Dealers thought it rather funet;
As for Monet, some (not manet)
Thought he wasn't making anet.

But this brings me back to a question that has haunted me for decades. Readers old enough to remember who van Meegeren was must bear with me while I remind the rest.

He was a Dutch art dealer and minor artist, who remained in the Netherlands throughout the Second World War and German Occupation, following his trade as best he could. After the war, he was prosecuted as a collaborator, the evidence being that he had sold to Goering a masterpiece by Vermeer, a huge "Christ at Emmaus". The picture was undoubtedly among Goering's loot, and it had certainly been sold to him or his agents by van Meegeren, so the case looked black. The dealer, however, pleaded not guilty, and his defence caused a considerable sensation. He claimed that instead of being condemned for collaborating with the enemy he should be commended for making fools of them, for, so far from the picture being by Vermeer, he had painted it himself.

His claim was greeted with considerable scepticism; the picture had been vouched for by leading art experts. Whereupon, van Meegeren caused an even greater sensation; he announced that if the court would order him to be provided in his prison with canvas, brushes, paint and a sufficiency of north light, he would be pleased to match the customer's sample by turning out another Vermeer on the same scale and with the same apparent authenticity. And that is precisely what he did. (As it happened, the Dutch authorities behaved shabbily; they prosecuted van Meegeren for forgery, and he was sentenced to a *year in prison, where he died. Now I* come to think of it, the British authorities behaved just as badly to the memorably named Mr Kempton Bunton, who stole the Goya "Duke of Wellington" but later returned it unharmed. They prosecuted him for stealing the frame, which he had not returned, and he, too, was imprisoned. It is always dangerous, it seems, to make fools of the foolish.)

Now for van Meegeren's Question. As it happens, he did not ask it himself, though it enshrined what was obviously his view; it occurred in a play about the case, at one point in which van Meegeren is reflecting on the fact that his "Christ at Emmaus" was universally accepted as genuine until he himself proved that it was a fake. I quote van Meegeren's Question from memory, but it went something like this:

Yesterday, this picture was worth *millions of guilders, and experts* and art-lovers would come from all over the world and pay money to see it. Today, it is worth nothing, and nobody would cross the street to see it free. *But the picture has not changed.* What has?

I am blowed if I know, and the unblowed are warned that any attempt to provide the question with a snap answer will certainly come to grief. (Suppose, for instance, that van Meegeren had died before his trial; his Vermeer would presumably be accepted to this day. Moreover, he was able to get away with the original sale because there is evidence that Vermeer did paint such a picture, which had been presumed lost. So suppose that van Meegeren had died without revealing his secret, and the real Vermeer had then turned up: how would the experts have adjudicated between the two, and how would they have convinced anybody that they had made the right decision, whatever it was? Or suppose van Meegeren had left, to be opened after his death, a statement that his defence had been bogus, and that the disputed picture had been genuine after all? And suppose that that had happened, and the *genuine* genuine one had been found, and the experts had divided into two equal camps of supporters – which one would we have paid good money to see and be impressed by?)

The price of a picture is determined by supply and demand, *within a framework of fashion*, so there is no clue there; certainly some people will go to see a picture that *has* been sold for a record sum just *because* of the money it fetched, but they would also go to see, for the same reason, a giant uncut diamond or for that matter a very large pile of banknotes. The beauty of a picture ought not to be in the eye of the beholder, but that "ought" is a fat lot of use in the face of van Meegeren's success, and for that matter a fat consolation for those who bought (and sold) Mr Keating's Palmers. If we stood in front of van Meegeren's Vermeer and felt profoundly affected by the majesty and power of the scene, just why would we stop feeling such things if a newsboy rushed into the gallery shouting that it had just been proved a fake?

Well, let me step into the witness-box myself. I have just published a book, in one chapter of which I go rattling on for pages about Vermeer's "The Servant Pouring Milk" in the Rijksmuseum; I have gazed upon that picture countless times, for many hours in all, but I simply do not know what I would feel on my next visit if before it took place the picture was conclusively proved to be by Mr Denis Skinner, Lord Chief Justice Lane, or Miss Sarah Hogg.

If I would feel the same as I always have, then the identity of the artist is not important. In one sense, that is obviously true: there are some very great pictures which have never been attributed to any known artist. But suppose Mr Skinner, The LCJ or Miss Hogg had been shown to have painted the picture, deliberately, in the style of Vermeer, which is what van Meegeren did: why would the authorship then start to matter – to matter so much, indeed, that I might no longer feel the same about it?

It is no use saying that there is a vast gulf between any masterpiece and any imitation of it, however meticulous. I have no doubt there is, but if we cannot see the difference – and successful art forgery would not exist if we could – what exactly does the difference consist of, apart from the fact that there must be one? Suppose that that four-million-dollar Manet did turn out to be a fake: the buyer could get his money back from Christie's, of course, but questions of legal liability plainly have nothing to do with artistic validity, so what would then be the standing of the oohs and ahs – quite genuine ones, I am sure – heard in the saleroom when it was held up before the bidding started?

Then again, what about a picture that has hung, neglected, in the corner of a gallery for many years, *attributed to a minor follower of* Raphael? All of a sudden the greatest Raphael expert in the world takes a good look at it, and declares that *it is* from the master's own hand: all other experts look at it and agree, and the queues begin to form. Never mind the *motives* of the queuers: what has caused the difference in their *feelings* in front of the picture, which have changed overnight from casual interest to passionate devotion? (Remember van Meegeren: "The picture has not changed. What has?")

The horrid truth seems to be that our response to art rests on a *foundation much less secure than we* like to think. I suppose it begins when we begin to learn about art, and all too often to learn about it in terms of hierarchies of eminence, so that Rembrandt=good is an equation fixed in our minds forever. But it is all too easy to believe, and millions do believe it, that his paintings are good because he is Rembrandt; in fact, his paintings are good because of the qualities to be found in them, and they would be no less good if they were by Smith, Jones or Anon, yet the result of the equation-learning (the equivalent of the "capes and bays" method of teaching geography when my mother was a girl) is that many visitors to an art gallery look first for the label which tells them who painted it, and then at the picture to see not what is there but what the label has told them.

If Rembrandt is good, then we are obliged to experience the appropriate response when looking at a picture he painted, and if we fail to experience it we are obliged to keep quiet. Conversely, when we are looking at a picture by not-Rembrandt, we accept that we are forbidden to feel the response appropriate to his work. Now: what happens when we are looking at a Rembrandt, with the right feelings, and we are told that it is a fake? The answer, surely, is the answer to van Meegeren's question: we switch off the feeling at once, and switch on the feeling appropriate to fakes – that is, an indignation made the more intense by the realization that we have been fooled.

I have to say that I have never felt quite so tentative in offering an answer to a question in my life. But if that, or something like it, is not the answer to van Meegeren's riddle, what is? I think I had better leave it there for today, retreating in good order under the cover provided by Beachcomber's account of Captain Foulenough's brief career as the owner of a shady art gallery where hacks turned out rubbishy daubs which were then sold to credulous *millionaires as examples of the* finest modern art. One evening, Foulenough got drunk and signed a *hideous abstract "Tintoretto". Even* the sucker who was to be bamboozled into buying it jibbed at this, and the captain, thinking fast, insisted that the signature was in fact that of Tintoretto, an artist in the most *avant of gardes*. Thus reassured, the sucker paid up, and presumably van Meegeren, from that corner of Heaven reserved for those who have smitten the Philis*tines with the jawbone of an ass*, chuckled quietly. My compliments to Tom Keating, and if he will only *claim* publicly to have painted the Manet there will be a bottle of champagne waiting for him c/o Levin as soon as he cares to call.

John Harris

Chewing on bones of contention

Clermont l'Hérault

Once upon a time in swinging Belsize Park, over the taramasalata, the tinned snails, the shashlik, the *carciofi alla romana* and the Chinese toffee apples, I could define myself as an ectomorphic non-vegetarian progressive, rationally faithful to a selection of woolly liberal western traditions. But down here, in this village between Montpellier and Béziers, I am the Englishman.

Monsieur Rancoul, the mobile butcher, plays a fanfare on his hooter and parks in the square. My wife hesitates between a couple of veal escalopes and a pound of stewing beef.

"What about a nice leg of lamb this weekend, Monsieur 'Arrisse? Just look at this beauty – something to regale yourself with!"

He is teasing us. Having chosen sun 300 days a year, wine at 30p a litre and the rest of the *douceur de vivre* of the Languedoc, we have to forego caviar, lobsters and legs of expensively educated French lamb, and he knows it. But he also knows – as a butcher – that I, as the Englishman, am conspiring to flood France with the vile limbs of nasty cheap British sheep, while my accomplices chew the tasteless fibres of aged beasts dumped by New Zealanders.

Falling into the trap, I defend the excellent product from down under, delicious even on the third day as shepherd's pie à la Worcester Sauce, while as to the succulence of English cutlets from lush dewy meadows. . .

Anyway, what about liberty, equality and fraternity, eh? Why try to stop French housepersons choosing whichever leg they like the look, taste and price of?

He thumps the counter with a calf's foot. What am I doing? This is where I hang my hat, among this little crowd of honest helpful interested people . . .

"And what about your Mrs Thatcher? Exploiting the Common Market without paying her subscription!"

"Why should she ruin her country so that you can sell your great trainloads of butter to the Russians at 50 centimes the kilo? She –"

My Mrs Thatcher indeed! At Belsize Park I have to carry the can for my M Mitterrand (it used to be my Roy Jenkins). Rancoul is clearly meditating a knock-down master-stroke.

My wife remembers her Dutch origins. "And why do you keep on chucking your potash salts in the Rhine, and ruining my vegetable gardens?"

He looks capable of defending his right to chuck anything in any of his rivers whenever the spirit moves him. But he won't be side-tracked: "Well, you burnt Joan of Arc, didn't you?"

Should I try to explain to him that Joan, despite her regrettable touch of anglophobia, is almost a naturalized British heroine? Better not. But I firmly point out that the Burgundians, who sold Joan, were not a British tribe, and that Cauchon, who condemned her, was the Bishop of Beauvais, not of Birmingham.

He grins with delight. Common sense has broken through. Perhaps he has more of it than I have. "All right, you win. You didn't burn her. But you must admit I didn't either."

We agree that we not only didn't burn Joan, but that if we had been there at the time we would have deplored the whole thing. We are against burning young ladies. We are on the same side after all.

This *entente cordiale* took place some days before I read an interesting review of two recent French books in *The Economist*. It seems that Joan was really the daughter of a VIP, was quietly released after her trial, got married and lived fairly happily ever after. The girl whom the Inquisition burnt was someone of no importance.

I'm glad I didn't know about this. It would have complicated the leg-of-lamb discussion. And when you come to think about it, it would have been a red herring.

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE 2001 DEBATE

The cause of open government could have no more prized adherent than Mr Fowler, whose conversion was announced in Tuesday's stimulating speech. At last, fourteen months after the Think Tank's welfare proposals were leaked, nine months after the press rumbled the Family Policy Group, one member of the government has subscribed to the involvement of the public in the debate about the future of social policy that has been going on in the holes and corners of Whitehall for some time.

Open government does not mean the satisfaction of casual curiosity about the workings of secret committees. It does require ministers to share with the public those hard but hidden facts of fiscal life, those internal tax and benefit equations which will shape the future of spending and services. The next convert must surely be Mr Lawson. In the conversation with *The Times* published this morning he teeters on the edge of acknowledging with Mr Fowler that there must be information, discussion about health costs, not just this year or next but in the longer run of decades. And after debate comes a plan, a proper plan for social spending till the end of the century. "Plan" is a loaded word in this government's lexikon, but without one how are public expectations to be shaped, diminished? Before either debate or plan the Prime Minister must throw off her preoccupation with the short term, and look beyond what seems to be her own tight social policy horizon, the date two years hence when she herself reaches pensionable age.

Such a debate will not make, as Mr Fowler rightly observed, for a quiet life. There is moreover no guarantee that the public, the parties or the producers of social services will prove mature enough to cast forward the arithmetic of pensions and doctors' bills to thirty even fifty years ahead. But the least that ministers and officials can do, and soon, is get the debate started on the basis of facts. This is no exercise in future fantasy. Those due to retire in the third decade of the next century will enjoy (on present policy) state pensions costing up to one third of earnings to finance; contribution rates will have to shoot up to meet the cost. The time for discussion is now. The pensioners of 2030 are at this moment beginning their careers; a process of expectation-building has started: the reality of the costs of the Crossman-Castle earnings-related pension scheme must be exposed now.

In his speech Mr Fowler gave a lead, reminding the doomsayers that "ageing Britain" is not a demographic fact. After peaking in the middle of this decade the total number of pensioners (a growing proportion of whom will come to rely on private occupational schemes for their livelihood after retirement) will tail off. Such projections are of course fallible. Medical advance, changes in behaviour (less smoking for example) will affect mortality. Without doubt there will be mounting costs for the health service from the increased number of the very old; but there will be scope for savings elsewhere in the population structure. The projections do not all point in one direction; talk of an emergency in health costs is wild. The expensive might of the Government Information Service could well be mobilized in making intelligible the numbers and the nuances.

Yet a social policy debate that concerns itself with numbers and tax bills alone is going to be partial. Social policy is about family obligation, marriage, private provision as well as the public purse. Ellipsis between the burden of taxes and the "burden" of the elderly – the Prime Minister was guilty of loose talk in July – diminishes that vital sense of inter-generational continuity which holds society together. Any social policy debate must have a wide moral and a legal dimension: which is yet another reason that discussions in the Family Policy Group should never have been narrowly clandestine. Ministers may blanche at making speeches about family duty and divorce but such issues must be discussed. Divorce rates are linked to the cost of care. By the 1990s the disruption in children's obligations towards their parents caused by divorce will be a growing element in the dependence of the elderly on non-family providers of care. There have been occasions in the past when the natural reluctance of Conservatives to investigate society's working, to reduce its opacity, was fitting; now is not the time for squeamishness. Mr Fowler's prescription for maximizing openness about the problems and options of social policy is the right one.

TIME FOR A RECOUNT IN GENEVA

It has long been assumed that Soviet negotiators would leave the conference room in Geneva as soon as new missiles were deployed in West Germany. They had to make some kind of gesture, and they also need time to re-think their position. Hitherto their sole aim has been to prevent Western deployments. Every one of their proposals has required that the West refrain from deploying any cruise or Pershing II missiles. (The shadowy "walk in the woods" formula would have stopped only the Pershings, but it was not a formal proposal.) Now that deployments have begun they must decide whether to stick to their original aim or seek a balance that would permit some Western weapons to remain.

It is possible, of course, that they have lost all interest in agreement now that they have failed to get what they wanted. Although the West's zero-zero offer is still available they could persuade themselves that they are better off without an agreement. They already have a big advantage in theatre nuclear forces. They could build on this advantage by continuing to deploy SS-20s and other weapons without restraint while the West has limited itself to 572 new weapons and would find it politically difficult to increase the number.

The Soviets also have another reason for not hurrying towards an agreement, which is that they do not want to help Mr Reagan to get re-elected. This will not necessarily prevent them showing interest again after a decent pause, especially if they decide that he is going to get re-elected anyway, but if for whatever reason, they decide to resume negotiation they are unlikely to return to the table they have just abandoned. More probably they will seek to bring European theatre weapons into the strategic arms reduction talks (START) which have been running parallel in Geneva. This would greatly complicate the negotiations but would also make sense, since the distinction between theatre and strategic weapons is increasingly meaningless. It would also have the advantage of releasing the West from making the somewhat artificial connection between Soviet SS-20s on the one hand and American Pershings and cruise missiles on the other. Arms control might then be reassessed on a more rational basis by both sides, assuming they both genuinely want an agreement.

Meanwhile there will be argument about whose fault it was that the talks failed. Since the Soviet Union was not really interested in balanced arms control but simply in stopping the deployment of particular weapons the main blame lies with them. The Soviets could have had balance at almost any level between SS-20s and the new Western weapons which would have left them with an overall advantage. Perhaps the West could have gained a substantial reduction of SS-20s in return for abandoning deployment, but it is not clear whether there was a genuine Soviet offer hidden in the final flurry of conflicting signals from Moscow. Even if there was it would have left the Soviet Union with more SS-20s than in 1979, when the Nato decision was made, while defeating the main aim of the decision, which was to couple the American nuclear deterrent more effectively into the defence of Europe.

So it is difficult to argue that an opportunity was lost. What needs to be emphasised more strongly to a doubting public is that when Nato decided on the new weapons in 1979 it also decided to withdraw 1,000 nuclear warheads. Last month it decided to remove a further 2,000 over five years. Assuming that 572 new weapons are deployed there will be a net reduction of 1,428, or about 2,500 since 1979, which will bring the total down to its lowest in 20 years. So the picture of a relentless and provocative Western build-up is false. It is on the other side that the numbers are growing.

NO MESSENGER MARTYRS

On the face of it, the TUC general council gave its blessing yesterday to the National Graphical Association in its defiance of the Employment Acts. The High Court has already imposed a fine on the union for secondary picketing in its long recognition dispute with Messenger Newspapers Group, and the union has refused to pay. The general council has decided to "accept as valid" the union's request for assistance under the resolution passed by last year's special conference at Wembley, at the height of the campaign against the new laws.

Naturally the union is proclaiming that the movement's leaders have endorsed their action, and the pickets may be encouraged to persist in their efforts. Members of the general council itself may well feel that they did the very minimum that they could get away with. They issued a strong hint of disapproval of the rough tactics reportedly used by the pickets. The statement accepts the union's request as valid, but it does not go on, as the general council is empowered to do at its discretion by the Wembley formula, to call for financial and industrial support from the movement as a whole. It would be necessary to re-convene the general council and debate the matter again before any more substantial commitments could be entered into.

After Labour's election defeat, a tentative resumption of contacts with the Government and an annual conference readier than any in recent years to face unpleasant truths, the TUC is not eager to be drawn back into the sterilities of confrontation. Workers are still too concerned about the security of their own jobs to relish a pitched battle, least of all over legislation which has many supporters among the rank and file and does much to protect the individual trade unionist from pressures imposed by his own union. The TUC will not easily be able to negotiate a compromise over political contributions that it is eager to conclude if it has at the same time to man the barricades over Messenger.

In reality, the general council could have done less, and should have done. It took care last year not to allow itself to be deprived of discretion in judging how and when it should come to a union's aid. The NGA is well able to pay the fine imposed, and much more, without suffering anything like the "severe financial problems" the Wembley conference spoke of. This is a basically law-abiding movement: it must take pains to be seen to be so on the picket line. In addition, the matters remaining in dispute are now so narrow that it would be preposterous to hitch a national campaign on to them.

Unlike the Grunwick case, where the employer was frankly hostile to trade union representation in his factory, the Messenger dispute involves an employer who will be less easily elevated into the labour movement demonology. At the weekend the union's main demand for a closed shop throughout the Messenger group was conceded. Negotiations now turn on the employer's refusal to reinstate six dismissed strikers.

Six dismissed strikers make no very resonant rallying-call. The real issue now is whether the union can make the new laws appear unenforceable or irrelevant in practice. How the law should be enforced is for the High Court to decide, and the issue of contempt is sub judice. But there are sanctions available to it, including attachment of the union's considerable funds, which can be imposed without putting trade unionists in prison and making martyrs of them. It would be short-sighted of an outsider to pay the fine on the union's behalf in the hope of averting disruption to his own business: such expedients only store up more trouble for later. The issue is now between the court and the union. As for the general council, it has made its gesture, and the course of true leadership will be for it too to stand aside, lest it discredit the movement's claims to respect the law, by throwing its influence behind a union wrenching a minor dispute into a national political confrontation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woolworth case misgivings

From Lady Phillips

Sir, The misplaced approval with which the handling by a crown court of a recent case involving a charge of theft from a Woolworth store was greeted by the less discerning sections of the press should not be allowed to conceal the fact that the Recorder who dealt with the case did so in an unjudicial and unjust way, with the result that Woolworth's suffered a manifest injustice.

To judge by the report of the case in *The Times* for November 18 the Recorder indulged in florid rhetoric which seems to me quite out of place when judicial impartiality, logical reasoning and a sense of natural justice are called for.

Thus the Recorder said that Woolworth's decision to prosecute a widow of 77 for shoplifting was an "affront to British justice". Surely, the point is that, provided of course the evidence of the woman's actions which Woolworth's had in their possession disclosed a prima facie case of theft, they had a legal right to prosecute, irrespective of her marital status, or her age, or the fact that in some quarters shopkeepers like Woolworth's are considered fair game for thieves.

The Recorder appears to have confused the considerations relevant to the question whether there was a prima facie case against the accused with those considerations relevant to the question what order the court should make if the accused were ultimately found guilty.

I consider the mischief wrought by the Recorder in this mishandled case consists in the encouragement it gives to the notion I have already mentioned, that stores like Woolworth's do not deserve the protection of the law where theft of their goods is alleged by them to have occurred.

Yours sincerely,
PHILLIPS,
Director and Secretary,
Association for the Prevention of Theft in Shops.
303/304 Grand Buildings,
Trafalgar Square, WC2.
November 21.

Policy on prison release and parole

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Home Office

Sir, Dr Candy's resignation from the Parole Board is a matter of regret to the Home Secretary and myself. His letter to you (November 22) setting out the reasons for his action, however, seriously misrepresents the Home Secretary's policy in relation to the release of life sentence prisoners and the granting of parole.

The Home Secretary's announcement of the minimum period that he would normally expect certain categories of life sentence prisoners to serve does not mean a departure from the fundamental principles governing the consideration of individual cases. Nor does it usurp the role of Parliament.

The statutory position is clear. Before releasing a life-sentence prisoner the Home Secretary receives and will continue to receive advice, in each individual case, from the Parole Board on the risk to the public of releasing the prisoner and from the judiciary on the appropriate length of sentence to be served. But final decisions on the release of life-sentence prisoners rest entirely with the Home Secretary; and he is directly accountable to Parliament for the exercise of that statutory executive discretion. What the Home Secretary has done is to enunciate openly the policy that he will be following in considering each case that comes before him.

Dr Candy's account of how the Home Secretary's proposal in relation to restricting parole will operate is similarly misleading. All eligible prisoners will continue to be reviewed for parole on the merits of their individual cases. But parole is a privilege, not a right.

Successive Home Secretaries have exercised their statutory discretion on granting parole in ways which have seemed to them to accord best with the current requirements of the public interest and with the thrust of their general criminal justice policy. Their policies have been reflected in criteria followed by the Parole Board in making recommendations on individual cases and have been made public. The gravity of the offence is one of the factors that has always been included in these criteria.

It is thus entirely appropriate that this Home Secretary should set out his policy clearly for the benefit both of the Parole Board and of the public. The Home Secretary has had a meeting with the General Purposes Committee of the Parole Board in which there was a clear consensus of the way in which his policy should be implemented and the board's role maintained. He will make a detailed statement on this shortly.

Perhaps the most curious criticism in Dr Candy's letter is that the changes in policy announced by the Home Secretary have brought sentencing into the political arena. The Home Secretary has deliberately sought to avoid action which would interfere with the independent exercise by the courts of their sentencing functions. But he is publicly accountable for the exercise of his own statutory responsibilities.

He intends to carry out those responsibilities on the basis of a clearly stated policy which he believes will increase public confidence in the way in which the criminal justice system deals with the most serious and violent offenders sentenced by the courts.

Yours faithfully,
ELTON,
Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
November 23.

Individuality of Christian faith

From the General Secretary of The United Reformed Church

Sir, Your leading article of November 21 represents a further attempt to portray Christian faith as a private matter between the individual and God. Such a description of Christianity is comforting to many people in this country, especially to those who find the status quo acceptable. It is a style of religion which conforms to a secularised nation and culture and refuses to disturb the modern norms of society.

But this individualist, introspective emphasis has never been the whole of Christianity. If we seek a summary of what Jesus Christ was about, I would say it was to bring the Kingdom or reign of God, in all its righteousness, forgiveness and self-sacrificing love.

That kingdom has never been recognised solely in the interior life of the human spirit, but always in the total life of women and men in their struggle to live at peace, to face with dignity the terrors of death and to share in the community life of the Church.

It is true that we may easily make mistakes as we seek to interpret the reign of God for the life of our global village. We may jump too readily on bandwagons (whether they drive on the left or right) or rely too much on the latest expert. But to refuse the attempt, to offer no Christian critique, to make no Christian impact on national policies is to surrender. Surrender to what? To the gods of efficiency, profit and national power.

That is not what you, Sir, have in mind, and is not why Christ trod the way to the Cross. The personal and public witness will always need each other.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD THOROGOOD,
General Secretary,
The United Reformed Church,
86 Tavistock Place, WC1.
November 22.

From Mr Richard Lethbridge

Sir, My wife and I, one Anglican and one Roman Catholic, thought today's leading article, "The way of the Cross", was absolutely outstanding and thank you for it. It expressed much of what we both think about developments in the Western Church over the last 20 years.

It is very encouraging that a British newspaper can still produce leading articles of such quality and depth – and not a single misprint!

Yours gratefully,
RICHARD LETHBRIDGE,
Fawler Manor,
Near Charlbury,
Oxfordshire.
November 21.

From Professor H. MacL. Currie

Sir, With reference to your shrewd analysis of Dr Habgood's enthronement sermon (November 21), it is interesting to note that Simone Weil found the traditional teaching on the Church as the Body of Christ a real disincentive to entry. She compares it with the Marxist idea of class solidarity and reflecting on the concept of integration she writes:

Our true dignity is not to be parts of a body. . . . It consists in this, that in the state of perfection which is the vocation of each one of us, we no longer live in ourselves, but Christ lives in us; so that through our perfection Christ . . . becomes in a sense each one of us, as he is completely in each host. The hosts are not a *part* of his body.

(*The Simone Weil Reader*, ed by G. A. Panichas (1977), p24).

Yours truly,
H. MacL. CURRIE,
Department of Humanities,
Teesside Polytechnic,
Middlesbrough,
Cleveland.
November 22.

Settle-Carlisle line

From Mr M. J. Southgate

Sir, The article concerning the Settle-Carlisle line (November 17) does call for a reply in the face of British Rail being accused of "fiddling" figures.

The figures quoted by Mr Whitehouse might prove more leaky than leaked. They are in fact the wrong ones to study when considering the criteria for closure of the line. They are figures produced for management information only and are not relevant, nor have they been used, to reach any decision about this line.

I want it to be absolutely clear that the criteria for British Rail closure planning has been based on the cost of maintenance and staffing of the route between Settle Junction and Carlisle.

We are confident that the service can be adequately re-routed to serve additional markets and that we can do this in a more economical fashion.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. SOUTHGATE,
General Manager,
London Midland Region,
British Railways,
Euston House, NW1.

Greeks and Cyprus

From Sir David Hunt

Sir, In his article in today's *Times* (November 22) Roger Scruton has chosen to present the Turkish case on Cyprus in its crudest form; but he should have thought twice before embellishing it with a phrase much used before 1959 by Colonial Service officials, who should have known better, that Cyprus "has never been a Greek possession".

What meaning would he attach to this? That Cyprus had never been ruled from Athens since the Greek nation-state came into existence after 1821? By that criterion Chios "had never been a Greek possession" before 1912 nor Corfu before 1864. Does he consider that those islands are not Greek?

Greek language and culture have been dominant in Cyprus from the end of the second millennium BC, about the same time as in Chios and earlier than in Corfu.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
DAVID HUNT,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.

Human rights

From Mrs Patricia Coveney

Sir Anthony Lester's article, "Why deny us these rights?" (November 16), raises the interesting question as to why the British Government has not signed the Optional Protocol to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights.

This country ratified the International Convention on May 20, 1976, but we are not among the countries (including Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden) which are party to the Optional Protocol. The Optional Protocol enables individuals of states parties to submit written communications to the United Nations Human Rights Committee for consideration.

The fact that there is available a means of redress for individuals under the European Convention on Human Rights is beside the point. By signing the Optional Protocol we could encourage other nations to follow suit such as the USSR, which are not party to the European Convention, and are not likely to be.

It is noteworthy that Denmark, Italy, and the Netherlands, among the EEC countries, are parties to the Optional Protocol and are not content with the European Convention on Human Rights.

The only way we can enable nationals of the USSR to submit written communications concerning the violation of human rights to the United Nations Human Rights Committee (on which a UK and a USSR judge sit!) is by shaming the USSR into signing the Optional Protocol. If we do not sign it how can we expect the USSR to do so?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA COVENEY,
40 Westfield Close,
Bath,
Avon.
November 17.

Turkish invasion

From Mr James Callaghan, MP for Cardiff South and Penarth (Labour)

Sir, In your November 16 edition of *The Times* I was reported as saying in the House of Commons on November 15 with regard to Cyprus:–

The situation is a little different now from 1974, when the Turkish Government asked us to help them invade the island in order to support a gangster called Nikos Sampson who had taken over control of the island . . .

That must have been a slip of the tongue on my part. They asked us to "overthrow" him, and not "support" him.

Yours faithfully,
JIM CALLAGHAN,
House of Commons.

The Koh-i-Noor

From Mrs N. Byrne

Sir, I phoned today re your article of Tuesday, November 8, page 5, of *The Times*: "India turns acquisitive eyes on the Koh-i-Noor". I would like to point out that it was John Lawrence (my great grandfather) who was given the Koh-i-Noor to deliver to Queen Victoria, but he left it in his coat pocket, and it went to the wash. When he discovered this he asked his dhobi, "Did you find a piece of glass in my pocket?" and at once the dhobi produced it.

This has been a story that I have grown up with and is correct and shows the complete simplicity of John Lawrence, the only Viceroy who was not made a marquess owing to his real love of the simple life. I would be grateful for this to be put right as I am proud to be the great granddaughter of a humble and God-fearing man, who loved India.

Yours faithfully,
NONA BYRNE,
Raughmere Rise,
East Lavant,
Chichester, West Sussex.

Airline competition

From Mr N. Ashton Hill

Sir, May I be permitted through your columns to draw attention to an aspect which seems to have been less noticed than the debt for equipment.

British Airways has inherited a network of scheduled international services which were derived from the once famous schedules of corporation routes exclusively reserved to the nationalised corporations by the 1952 terms of reference. The removal of their monopoly has never altered the situation, which gave the corporation a long head start in its build up of a very valuable route network of scheduled services.

Is not this usually called goodwill? And is not the value of such almost incalculable – far beyond the value of the equipment? With a viable route network, it is not difficult to arrange finance for equipment. But without it, it would be impossible.

How is this going to be balanced so as to avoid endangering the independent operators, and the overall interests of users of air transport?

Yours faithfully,
N. ASHTON HILL, Chairman,
Federation of Air Transport User Representatives in the European Community,
129 Kingsway, WC2.

Enterprise in milk

From Dr R. W. D. Turner

Sir, Most people would miss the friendly milkman, but if the flavour of UHT is as unpleasant as opponents of keeping EEC law maintain, there will be no problem. Advantages for many are low price and convenience.

Low fat UHT is far more palatable, much healthier and likely to be acceptable to many if not most people. Young children anyway adapt to what is around. Enterprise by the UK dairy industry in producing a wide range of low fat UHT milks and milk products is surely indicated. The key questions are why *not* be enterprising? Why *not* permit freedom of choice? – and thereby be lawful.

RICHARD TURNER,
56 Buccleuch Street,
Edinburgh.

Farm tenancies

From the Director of the University of Oxford Institute of Agricultural Economics

Sir, The recent burst of correspondence in your columns relating to the decline of the traditional British landlord-tenant system, though it has raised many interesting issues, has failed to make the essential point.

There can be no doubt about the magnitude of the problem. In a period of some fourteen years two million acres of land in England and Wales have moved from the tenanted to the owner-occupied sector. My prediction is that the new legislation will have minimal effect in stemming the tide since the CLA/NFU package on which the 1983 Agricultural Holdings Bill is based is a compromise which contains two opposing provisions.

One effect of the Bill, if it is passed, will be to remove one disincentive for landowners with a vacant farm on hand to offer it to a new tenant. To do so at present means that the landowner, under the 1976 Act, cedes his right to repossession (save in somewhat restricted circumstances) through three generations of tenancy.

It is ironic that the 1976 Act was originally motivated by an intent to *maintain* tenancy. In a letter in your columns of October 8, 1981, I suggested (with my colleague D. Patchett) that protection to succession could be preserved by less drastic measures than blanket legislation by the simpler device of having disputed cases referred to the Agricultural Land Tribunal.

This would still, it is contended, be preferable to wholesale rejection of the succession principle (except on land which will still be covered by the 1976 provisions) as now proposed. If, however, there is any blockage on re-possession at the termination of a tenancy, and indeed in any circumstances, careful thought needs to be given to the fixing of rents.

The price which the NFU is extracting for repeal of the 1976 provisions has been to wring a concession from the landowning side concerning rents.

Arbitrators will be instructed to take account of evidence relating to rents on comparable holdings which are being paid, or are likely to become payable in view of rents currently being tendered (which can be much higher than average rents).

This instruction, however, is immediately countermanded by a further statement that adjustment should be made to discount elements of rent "due to an appreciable scarcity of comparable holdings . . . compared with the number of persons seeking to become tenants". The binding instruction is effectively contained in a sub-clause which speaks of account being taken of the rent at which "a competent tenant . . . could reasonably be expected to profit from farming the holding".

The danger in this is that effective suspension of market forces may reproduce the lagged effect on rents which caused so many problems between 1948 and 1958; and *continued* unwillingness of landowners to offer new tenancies when they are able to do so.

There appears, in the face of the evidence which we have, to be no sound reason for replacing the 1958 formula with a new one of uncertain impact which might effectively undermine the intent of the proposed legislation. It therefore appears important that the whole situation be re-appraised with an effort being made to produce a compromise re-formulation which would avoid both a restrictive rent policy and blockage associated with the 1976 succession provisions.

Unless this can be done the continued decline of a valuable institutional arrangement will not be arrested.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. PETERS, Director,
University of Oxford,
Institute of Agricultural Economics,
Dartington House,
Little Clarendon Street, Oxford.
November 9.

Winged chariot

From Mr David Whiffen

Sir, Miss Kerry ten Kate (November 16) is wrong about the smallest measurable interval of time.

This is undoubtedly that between the moment you replace a telephone receiver on its hook and the moment you realise you had something else to say.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID WHIFFEN,
9 Eliot Place,
Blackheath, SE3.
November 16.

From Mr J. A. Walsh

Sir, I used to think the shortest measurable interval of time was the space between the traffic lights in front turning green and the sports car behind sounding its horn.

Lately, however, I have concluded that the speed with which Brussels taxi meters advance 5 francs a click is a clear winner.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. WALSH,
30 Ottways Lane,
Ashtead,
Surrey.
November 17.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 23: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, this evening attended the Royal Corps of Signals Institution Annual London Lecture at the Royal Commonwealth Society, London WC2.
The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 23: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today honoured the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police (Sir Kenneth Newman) with her presence at luncheon at New Scotland Yard.
Lady Elizabeth Basset and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.
Her Majesty was present this evening at a Reception given by the East Grinstead Research Trust at New Zealand House.
Lady Elizabeth Basset and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 23: The Prince of Wales, having travelled in the Royal Train, this morning visited the IBM factory at Greenock, Renfrewshire.
His Royal Highness, President, the Council for National Academic Awards, this afternoon attended an Awards Ceremony at McEwan Hall, Edinburgh.
The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr David Roycroft, later left Royal Air Force Turnhouse in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 23: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as Patron of the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom, was present this evening at a Reception held at the Kensington Exhibition Centre for the Delegates attending the International Primary Health Care Conference.
Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 23: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Girls of the Realm Guild, was present this evening at a Reception held at Leighton House, Holland Park, London.
Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.
The Duke of Gloucester presented the Brick Development Association's Biennial Architectural Awards at a Luncheon held at Berkeley Hotel, Wilton Place, London.
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.
In the evening The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, opened The Genius of Venice Exhibition at Royal Academy of Arts. Later Their Royal Highnesses were entertained to Dinner by the Italian Ambassador and Signora Cagiati at the Italian Embassy, London.
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Michael Wigley were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST. JAMES'S PALACE
November 23: The Duke of Kent this morning visited the factory of Mullard Limited, Durham, and this afternoon, as Vice-Chairman of the *British* Overseas Trade Board, visited Electrolux/Flymo Limited, Newton Aycliffe.
His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of 32 Squadron Royal Air Force, was attended by Captain John Stewart.
The Duchess of Kent, as Patron, this evening attended a Gala Evening in aid of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council which was held at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley, Surrey.
Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 23: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London E1.
Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.
In the evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at the 156th Festival Banquet of the Printers' Charitable Corporation at Grosvenor House, W1.
Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

A memorial service for Sir Dudley Cunliffe-Owen will be held today at 11.30 at Holy Trinity, Brompton.

A memorial service for Mr Dunstan Curtis will be held today at noon at St Bride's, Fleet Street.

A memorial service for Professor Elizabeth Brunner will be held in the Chaplaincy Centre, Lancaster University, on Wednesday, December 7, at 2.15pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir William Gray, Bt
and Miss C. V. W. Naylor
The engagement is announced between William, only son of the late Mr William Talbot Gray and of Mrs Rosemarie Gray, of Eggleston Hall, Barnard Castle, co Durham, and Catherine, youngest daughter of the late Mr John Naylor and of Mrs Naylor, The Mill House, Bramley, Hampshire.

Mr C. J. Ramsdale
and Miss C. H. Crook
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Christopher John, son of Mr and Mrs C. Ramsdale, of Coventry, and Catherine Hilary (Kate), daughter of the Hon D. E. and Mrs Crook, of Hurst, Berkshire.

Mr S. C. Calnan
and Miss C. C. Moon
The engagement is announced between Sebastian, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Charles Calnan, of London, WC1, and Kate, daughter of Mrs Patricia Hammond, of Claygate, Surrey.

Mr M. W. C. Carhart
and Miss J. C. Buckley
The engagement is announced between Mark, first son of Mr and Mrs W. H. T. Carhart, of 4 Goit Stock Lane, Harden, near Bingley, West Yorkshire, and Janine, only daughter of Mr A. Buckley, of Askham Bryan Hall, Askham Bryan, York, and Mrs P. Adamson, of 7 Scotland Close, Horsforth, Leeds.

Mr D. K. Chamberlain
and Miss P. L. P. Lewis
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Chamberlain, of Horsham, Sussex, and Phoebe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Frederic Lewis, of Barton Court, London, W14.

Dr M. J. Charig
and Dr E. M. Callaghan
The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Dr and Mrs Alan Charig, of Oxted, Surrey, and Eileen, daughter of Mrs Mary Callaghan, of Netley Abbey, Hampshire, and the late Mr Francis Callaghan.

Mr J. S. Fuller
and Miss S. O. Cope
The engagement is announced *between James, younger* son of Mr M. T. Fuller, OBE, DSC, and Mrs Fuller, of Eaton Hill House, Tarporley, Cheshire, and Sarah, daughter of Dr and Mrs A. G. Cope, of Long View, Lucas Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Mr M. P. Hudson
and Miss E. D. Aspin
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mrs M. V. Hudson, of Haslemere, Surrey, and the late Captain M. W. Hudson, RN, and Erica, daughter of Mrs D. R. Willis, of Hythe, Hampshire, and the late Mr R. G. Aspin.

Mr T. J. B. Hutchings
and Miss E. J. Kendra
The engagement is announced between Tim, eldest son of the late Mr Ben Hutchings, and of Mrs Ann Hutchings, of Rotherwick, Hampshire, and Emily, elder daughter of the Rev K. E. Kendra, OBE, and Mrs Kendra, of Highfields, Mere, Wiltshire.

Mr R. B. M. Masson-Taylor
and Miss K. A. O. Chippindall-Higgin
The engagement is announced between Rohan, son of the late Mr A. Clifford Taylor and Mrs A. Clifford Masson-Taylor, of Sloane Avenue Mansions, Sloane Avenue, London, SW3, and Kerry, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. W. Chippindall-Higgin, of 48 Springfield Road, St John's Wood, London, NW8 0QW.

Mr T. J. Mornin
and Miss B. Sporne
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. Mornin, of Dalgety Bay, Fife, and Barbara, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs K. R. Sporne, of Cambridge.

Mr R. G. T. Stenhouse
and Miss A. M. T. Gray
The engagement is announced between Guy, youngest son of the late Hugh C. Stenhouse and Mrs Hugh C. Stenhouse, of Maxwelton House, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Gray, of Braehead House, Crossford, Lanarkshire.

Mr M. P. C. Tindall-Carill-Worsley
and Miss S. J. de V. Dudgeon
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. G. N. Tindal-Carill-Worsley, of London, SW7, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Ian de Vere Dudgeon, of Castor, near Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

Mr J. N. Waites
and Miss V. J. Rouse
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs R. G. Waites, of Stockton-on-Tees, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. A. Rouse, of Wickhambrook, Suffolk.

Mr S. J. Wilson
and Miss J. R. Hayman
The engagement is announced between Stephen Wilson and Julie Hayman, of Earlesfield.

Marriage

Mr D. Tang
and Miss S. Cheung
The marriage took place on Wednesday, November 23, at the Catholic Church, Beijing, between Mr David Tang and Miss Susanna Cheung. A dinner reception was held at Maxim's de Paris and the honeymoon will be spent in Inner Mongolia.

Luncheon

British Nutrition Foundation
The annual luncheon of the British Nutrition Foundation was held yesterday at the Royal College of Physicians. Dr Alan Robertson, chairman of the council of the foundation, presided and the guest of honour was Lord Thomson of Monifieth. The annual lecture was delivered afterwards by Professor Hamish Munro, director, USDA Human Nutrition Center on Aging, Boston, United States.

Reception

Musicians Benevolent Fund
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, was present at a reception last night at Mansion House given by the Musicians Benevolent Fund to mark the Festival of St Cecilia. The guests were received by Mr Philip Cranmer, chairman of the fund, and Mrs Cranmer, and Lord Ashby proposed the health of the fund. There was a recital by the Medici String Quartet, led by Mr Paul Robertson. Mr Martin Williams, secretary, and Mrs Patricia Sherland, deputy secretary, attended. Among those present were:
The Master of the Queen's Music, Lady Arthur, Lady Beecham, Sir Geraint and Lady Evans, Sir Ian Hunter, Dame Eva Turner, the Master of the Musicians' Company, Mr and Mrs Joseph Cooper and Dr and Mrs Eric Fenby.

Sevice reception

RAF Supply Branch
The RAF Supply Branch held a reception at Banqueting House, Whitehall last night. Air Vice-Marshall A. R. Martindale, Director-General of Supply (RAF), and Mrs Martindale received the guests. Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, members of the Air Force Board and senior staff of the Ministry of Defence were among those present.

Dinners

Royal Signals Institution
Princess Anne was present yesterday evening at the annual London lecture of the Royal Signals Institution at the Royal Commonwealth Society. The lecturer was Professor J. M. Ashworth, Vice-Chancellor of Salford University. Major-General A. J. Jackson, chairman of the institution, presided. Later the Princess dined with members of the council of the institution.

Signora Cagiati
The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present at a dinner given by the Italian Ambassador and Signora Cagiati at the Italian Embassy last night to mark the opening of the exhibition "The Genius of Venice" at the Royal Academy. Other guests included:
Senatore Susanna Agnelli, Conte Gian Giacomo Attolico, Professore Rosanna Barbiellini Amidei, Professor Feliciano Benvenuti, Marchese and Marchesa Berlingeri, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, Duchess Terry Canevaro, Sir Hugh and Lady Casson, Contessa Anna Maria Cicogna Mozzoni, Sir Ashley and Lady Clarke, Mr and Mrs Massimo Coen, Dr Domenico Crivellari, Lord and Lady Forte, Professor John Hale, Professor and Mrs Francis Haskell, Mr Roy Jenkins, MP, Professor and Mrs Terisio Pignatti, Mr Merlyn Rees, MP, and Mrs Rees, Mr and Mrs Piers Rodgers, Lord Thorneycroft, CH, and Lady Thorneycroft, Duca and Duchessa Torlonia, Principessa Alberica Trivulzio, Professor and Mrs Alessandro Vaciago, Professor and Mrs Francesco Valcanover, Mr and Mrs Umberto Vattani, Mr and Mrs Ray Whitney and Mrs Michael Wigley.

Printers' Charitable Corporation
Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were the guests of honour at an anniversary dinner given by the Printers' Charitable Corporation at Grosvenor House last night. Mr Gordon Brunton, president, responded to the toast "the Printed Word" proposed by Mr Humphrey Tilling. Among others present were:
Lord and Lady Delfont, Lady Feather, Sir Derek and Lady Greenaway, Dame Vera Lynn, Sir Eric and Lady Cheadle, Mrs Gordon Brunton, Mr Norman Garrod, Mr Robert Maxwell, Mr and Mrs Jarvis Astaire and Major-General and Mrs A J Dyball.

Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guests of honour at a dinner given by Mr Christopher Rivington, Master of the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company, and Mr Laurence Viney and Mr Ray Tindle, Wardens, at Stationers' Hall last night. The other guests included the Portuguese Ambassador, Lieutenant-General Sir Stewart Pringle and the Dean of Carlisle.

Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers
Sir Eric Yarrow presided at a dinner given by the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers last night at the Institution of Civil Engineers. Among those present were:
[illegible]

London House
The annual dinner for overseas and UK students of the Arts Faculties was given in London House last night by the governors and staff. Lord Seebohm presided and Sir Reginald and Lady Hibbert and Miss Alice Krige were among the guests.

Institution of Production Engineers
The annual dinner of the Institution of Production Engineers was held last night at the Royal Lancaster Hotel. Mr Alex Houseman, president, was in the chair and the guest of honour was Lord Aldington. The institution's international award was presented to Dr Alan Puckett of the United States.

Old Etonian Racquets and Tennis Club
The annual dinner of the Old Etonian Racquets and Tennis Club took place last night at Boodle's. Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, president, was in the chair and the guest of honour and speaker was Mr John Barrett.

Reed's School
The 170th annual dinner of Reed's School was held last night at Grocers' Hall under the presidency of Mr Daniel Meinertzhagen. The other speakers were Mr George Nissen and *Mr David Prince*, headmaster. Among those present were:
Air Chief Marshal Sir Alasdair Steedman, the Master of the Grocers' Company and Mrs Stewart-Roberts, the Master of the Barbers' Company and Mrs Champness and the Mayor and Mayoress of Elmbridge.

Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company
The chairman, Mr J. M. Sterling, and members of the board of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company gave a dinner on Tuesday at the Carlton Club in honour of the Earl of Inchcape to mark his retirement as chairman and his appointment as president of the company.

Service dinner

Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron
RAF officers and students of Manchester and Salford Universities Air Squadron held their annual dinner at the Altcar Training Camp, Formby, Liverpool, last night. Squadron-Leader G. Timms presided, and the guest of honour was *Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville* Stack.

Lecture

Air League
Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson gave the fifth Andrew Humphrey memorial lecture to members of the Air League at 4 Hamilton Place last night. Among those present were:
Viscount and Viscountess Slim, Lord Trefgarne, Admiral Sir Raymond and Lady Lygo, General Sir Frank King, Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler, Air Chief Marshal Sir John and Lady Barraclough, Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Austin, Air Marshal Sir Roy and Lady Austen-Smith, Air Marshal Sir Charles and Lady Pringle, Air Marshal Sir Michael Knight, Air Marshal Sir Peter Harding, Lady Humphrey, Lady Williamson, Sir Frank Cooper, Sir Ross Stainton, Sir Archie Winskill, Dr J E Henderson, Mr Raymond Baxter, Mr E Broadbent, Air Marshal D P Hall, Mr Clive Hunting and Air Commodore C A Aldis.

Memorial service

Mr T. Davis
A memorial service for Mr Terence Davis was held at All Souls, Langham Place, yesterday. The Rev Roger Simpson officiated and read the lesson. The Hon Sir Steven Runciman gave an address and Mr Alan Wheatley read from Shakespeare's "Cymbeline" and other works. Among those present were:
[illegible] Mrs Rita Gielgud.

Birthdays today

Mr Ian Botham, 28; Mr Lynn Chadwick, 69; Mr Billy Connolly, 41; Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, 63 Lord John-Mackie, 74; Mr David Kossoff, 64; Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Lawson, 56;

Professor Sir Claus Moser, 61; Mr Alun Owen, 58; Mr Graham-Price, 32; Mr A. J. Sylvester, 94; the Right Rev F.S. Temple, 67.

Reflected glory: Andrew Logan emerging from the top of *his 12ft tall "cosmic egg", made from thousands of pieces* of mirrored glass, outside the Commonwealth Institute in Kensington, London, yesterday.
(Photograph: Suresh Karadia.)

New Catholic bishop ordained

The Rt Rev James Hannigan was ordained as the new Roman Catholic Bishop of Menevia at Wrexham, North Wales, yesterday. His diocese covers Clwyd, Gwynedd, Dyfed and Powys.

The Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, the papal pronuncio, Archbishop Bruno Heim, and about 20 bishops attended the ceremony. He succeeds the Most Rev John Ward who, as Archbishop of Cardiff, conducted the ceremony.

Haberdashers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Haberdashers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master: Mr C. I. Bostock; Wardens: Mr G. L. Bourne, Mr M. W. D. Northcott, Mr D. G. C. Inglefield and Mr P. W. Bedford.

Latest wills

Group Captain Michael Sullivan Keogh, GC, of Minster, Sheppey, Kent, who was awarded the Albert Medal, subsequently translated to George Cross, for his heroic attempt to rescue a polot from his crashed aircraft on the island of Imbros in *1915, left estate valued at £34,389.*

Mr Dennis Grant Skinner, of Harrow, London, the Midland Bank representative in Moscow who died after a fall from his 11th floor flat, left estate valued at £23,135 net.

Vera Mary Julia Kemp Pine, of Crapstone, Yelverton, Devon, left estate valued at £307,434 net. She left £103,500 and some effects to personal legatees, and the residue equally between the Cancer Research Campaign, Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, RSPB, RNIB, Multiple Sclerosis Society and the *British Retinitis Pigmentosa* Society.

Dr Sullivan Bernard Eadham, of Nottingham, left estate valued at £465,316 net. After personal bequest of £1,000 he left the residue to the JNF Charitable Trust.

Mrs Leila Berk, of Regent's Park, London, left £1,930,514.
Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Barling, Mr Percy Keith, of Tunbridge Wells................£606,060
Jones, Mrs Bertha May, of Bournemouth........................£343,143
Little, Mr Archibald, of Greenhead, Carlisle, farmer...............£358,726

Davison, Mrs Eva Grace, of Cromer, Norfolk..........................£344,229
Webb, Mr Francis, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands £321,040

OBITUARY

DR T. H. HILLS
Pioneer work in radiology

Dr T. H. Hills, who was director of the X-ray department at Guy's Hospital, London, from 1949 to 1974, died on November 19.

Thomas Henry Hills was a Guy's man all his professional life. He trained at the Hospital, which he entered as a student in 1927, qualifying in 1935. A year later he was appointed a registrar in the X-ray department, and finally became director in 1949.

Radiology was an obvious choice of speciality, as he was no mean engineer. This proclivity showed itself early in his career; while he was still a student he was given a year's leave of absence to work at Leyland perfecting a fluid flywheel which he had invented.

This inventiveness characterized the whole of his career as a radiologist. He evolved, and built himself, the first automatic X-ray processing machine to be used in England, and he also pioneered and developed a method of film miniaturization using a television system. In addition, he was one of the first to develop xeroradiography in this country.

He was not just an engineer, however. As an administrator he developed one of the best X-ray departments in London, and he was equally skilled in his dealings with both patients and students. With the latter he was particularly popular by virtue of his freely lending his musical skills (he was an accomplished pianist) in the preparation of the annual Residents' play, for long one of the social events of Guy's. He was also a universally popular censor of these for years.

His engineering skills served him well in his retirement, much of which was happily spent in his own superb workshop.

MRS LUCY MIDDLETON

Mrs Lucy Middleton, who died on November 20, at the age of 89, was MP for the Sutton division of Plymouth from 1945 to 1951, and an active member of the Labour Party for many years.

She married in 1936 J. S. Middleton, Secretary of the party from 1934 to 1944, who died in 1962. From 1958 to 1968 she was director and chairman of War on Want.

She was born Lucy Annie Cox on May 9, 1894, and educated at Colston's Girls' High School, Bristol, and Bristol University. She held various teaching appointments before becoming active in the Peace Movement in the 1920s, and later acting as political adviser to the Hindu minorities at sittings of the Round Table Conference.

From 1936 to 1957 she was a governor of Chelsea Polytechnic. In 1977 she edited *Women in the Labour Movement.*

DR PAUL SANGNIER

Dr Paul Sangnier, Director of the French Geological Survey, died recently in Orléans, aged 45, after a few months' illness.

He was well known to many geologists throughout the world as Secretary-General of the 26th International Geological Congress which, returning to the home of the first congress in 1878, was held in Paris in 1980, and attracted 5,800 members. In tribute to his work he was created *Chevalier de l'Ordre* National du Mérite, and in the following year was appointed head of the national geological service.

Mr Charles Fiennes Ingle, Recorder of Penzance from 1964 to 1971 died at his home in Johannesburg on November 5 at the age of 75. He was a deputy chairman of Devon Quarter Sessions from 1963 to 1971.

Carolyn Leigh, the lyricist who wrote songs for Broadway shows and Frank Sinatra records, died on November 19 of a heart attack. She was 57.

She wrote the words to such hits as "Hey Look Me Over", "Young At Heart" and "The Best Is Yet To Come", which were recorded by Frank Sinatra. Among her other works she contributed to the Broadway musical *Wildcat* starring Lucille Ball, as well as *Little Me* and *How Now Dow Jones.*

Mr Bill Bellow, who died at the age of 74, had been chief executive of the soccer Southern League since 1982, and before that secretary from 1956 to 1982.

Correction

John Le Mesurier did not play the part of Gandalf in the BBC production of *Lord of the Rings*, as stated in our obituary of him on November 16, but that of Bilbo Baggins.

University news

Aberdeen
The department of engineering has received from the Science and Engineering Research Council (marine technology directorate) a total of £150,000 to support five research projects on collision protection of offshore steel structures, the performance of large-drive systems, the service life of wire rope in a marine environment, the marine durability of steel fibre reinforced concrete, and a project on *"marine vibro-impact coring".*

UMIST
Grants
Science and Engineering Council: £84,440 to Professor B J Davies and Dr A Cowley for research into the behaviour of stationary arbor roll with a TCF hydrostatically controlled sleeve; £116,025 to Professors P A Payne, Ms Beck and G F Kirkbright for a centre for instrumentation and analytical science.
Mental Health Foundation: £59,652 to Dr R Itzhaki for research into molecular aspects of brain ageing in relation to senile dementia.
Leyland Vehicles: £78,429 to Professor B J Davies for a research teaching company scheme.
Du Pont de Nemours and Company: £234,375 to Professor J W S Hearle for research into the scientific basis for melt-spun fibre manufacturing founded on understanding of organization at the molecular level.
Ministry of Defence: £49,494 to Dr J S Alder for research into oxidation of red phosphorous.

WALES
Dr Cyril Williams, former reader and head of the department of religious studies, Aberystwyth, has been awarded a personal chair in religious studies at St David's University College, Lampeter.

Birmingham
Dr Patrick J. Butler has been appointed to the personal chair of comparative physiology and the headship of the department of zoology and comparative physiology from October 1. He was formerly senior lecturer in the department.

Nottingham
Five new special professors, nine special lecturers have accepted appointments.
The special professors are: Dr Martin Wolfe, of the plant pathology department, Plant Breeding Institute, Cambridge (appointed to the department of physiology and environmental science); Dr Arthur Wilson, head of the department of rock mechanics, Mining Research and Development Establishment, National Coal Board, Bretby (mining engineering); Dr Wilfred Heginbotham, Director General of the Production Engineering Research Association at Melton Mowbray (production engineering); Mr Bryan Wilson, Chief Scientist of the Allen Clarke Research Centre of The Plessey Company, Caswell, Northamptonshire (physics) and Dr Paul Dean, Deputy Chief Scientific Officer at the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Great Malvern (physics).
Special lecturers: Mr R Johnson (industrial economics); Mr G Pike (industrial economics); Mrs S Whiting (industrial economics); Mr A Perry, (social administration and social work); Dr J Garland (physiology and environmental science); Mr J Oxlons (community health); Dr C Barber (physiology and pharmacology); Dr F Johnson (surgery); Dr M N Whybourne (physics).

Liverpool
Grants
Science and Engineering Research Council: £61,024 to Dr C C Goodyear, Dr B M C Cheetham and Mr P M Hughes for minicomputer based simulator for digital signal processing research.

Southampton
Grants
Ministry of Defence: £85,327 to Professor A G Bailey to study production and stabilization of electrified aerosols; £42,143 to Dr P Nelson and Dr S Elliott to study the active control of propeller induced cabin noise.
National Physical Laboratory/Department of Trade and Industry: £76,245 to Dr Al Ferguson to study frequency modulated dye lasers.
Calorie Control Council: £51,540 to Dr A G Renwick to study saccharine and amino acid metabolism.
Science and Engineering Research Council: £72,720 to Professor G A Chadwick for research on squeeze casting of aluminium foundry alloys; £78,600 to Dr D C Hanna to study the enhancement of non-linear optical processes via spatial and temporal confinement of the interacting waves.

York
Appointments
Lecturers: A Battye, BA, MA (French and linguistics) and H Willig (German).

Grants
Wellcome Trust: £44,080 to department of biology to study chemotactic factors in cereospinal fluid of guinea pigs with chronic relaping experimental allergic encephalomyelitis.
Rutherford Appleton Laboratories: £83,555 to department of computer science for maintenance and enhancement of Unix networking software.
Science and Engineering Research Council: £95,135 to department of computer science for further development and promulgation of the York Ada Compiler; £80,266 to department of physics for direct method activity at York.
DHSS: £72,848 to Institute of Research in Social sciences for economic evaluation of diagnostic procedures.

Lancaster
Princess Alexandra, the Chancellor, will confer honorary degrees on the following on December 2:
DMus: Dame Janet Baker.
DSc: Mr Chris Bonington.
LLD: Mr Peter Scott, former *chairman of the university's finance* committee.

Science report

Meridian message to any passing extra-terrestrial

By Walter Sullivan, of *The New York Times*

To demonstrate how the presence on Earth of intelligent creatures could be signalled to visitors from afar, a 160-mile section of the Greenwich meridian is to be illuminated next Tuesday evening, weather permitting, as the space shuttle Columbia flies across France.

Unlike the elaborate and sophisticated experiments carried by the shuttle's Spacelab, this one will only require that scientists orbiting inside Spacelab on its inaugural mission observe and attempt to photograph the display.

The project is designed to awaken interest in communication with civilizations orbiting other suns rather than to contribute to basic scientific knowledge.

The other Spacelab observations are aimed at such diverse problems as the origin of the universe, energy production in the Sun and the origin of auroral displays. The nine-day mission, the longest to date, will include an attempt to create an artificial aurora near the spacecraft.

During the past century, when many scientists believed there might be a civilization on Mars, a variety of schemes were proposed to signal the existence of intelligent creatures on Earth. The mathematician, Karl Friedrich Gauss, is credited with a scheme to plant broad zones of forest in Siberia, forming a huge triangle. The central and surrounding areas would be planted in wheat for colour contrast.

It was also proposed that squares be planted on each side of the triangle, to illustrate the Pythagoran theorem, or that canals be dug in the Sahara to form a geometric figure. The water would be covered with paraffin and ignited at night. In France, Charles Cros proposed using a huge mirror to reflect sunlight towards Mars.

There is no longer any suspicion that higher forms of life exist anywhere as close as Mars.

Next week's demonstration is the winning scheme in a competition conducted among French youths by the European Space Agency, which developed the Spacelab, and Seti-France. Seti is the acronym for Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence. The winner, among more than 1,000 entries, was to illuminate the Greenwich meridian as a sign of intelligence.

The meridian runs south across France from Normandy to Spain. The sector illuminated by floodlights, according to Seti-France, will extend from Villers on the English Channel south 160 miles to Trois Moutiers, south-west of Tours.

At La Fleche airport, south of Le Mans, which is directly on the meridian, 50 pyrotechnic flares will be illuminated in the form of a cross. The project is scheduled for 6.45pm local time on Tuesday as the Shuttle crosses France on its 18th orbit of the Earth.

The previous day, as it crosses Paris at about the same time on its second orbit, floodlights will define the meridian passing through Paris along a line from Amiens to Montmorency. In Paris itself 200 pyrotechnic torches will be ignited in the Place du Pantheon, producing a flare that, according to the project sponsors, should be visible to the naked eye from a quarter of the distance to the Moon.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: **Sir Gordon Robson** to be Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards. The present chairman, Sir Stanley Clayton, retires on July 31, 1984.

Sir Alan Marre, to be Chairman of the British Nutrition Foundation.
Professor R. H. C. Davis to be a member of the reviewing committee on the export of Arts from November 1.
Mr Andrew Harold Browne to be full-time chairman of industrial tribunals in the Nottingham region from December 1.

Home match

Mr Bob Paisley, the former manager of Liverpool Football Club, was made a freeman of Liverpool yesterday.

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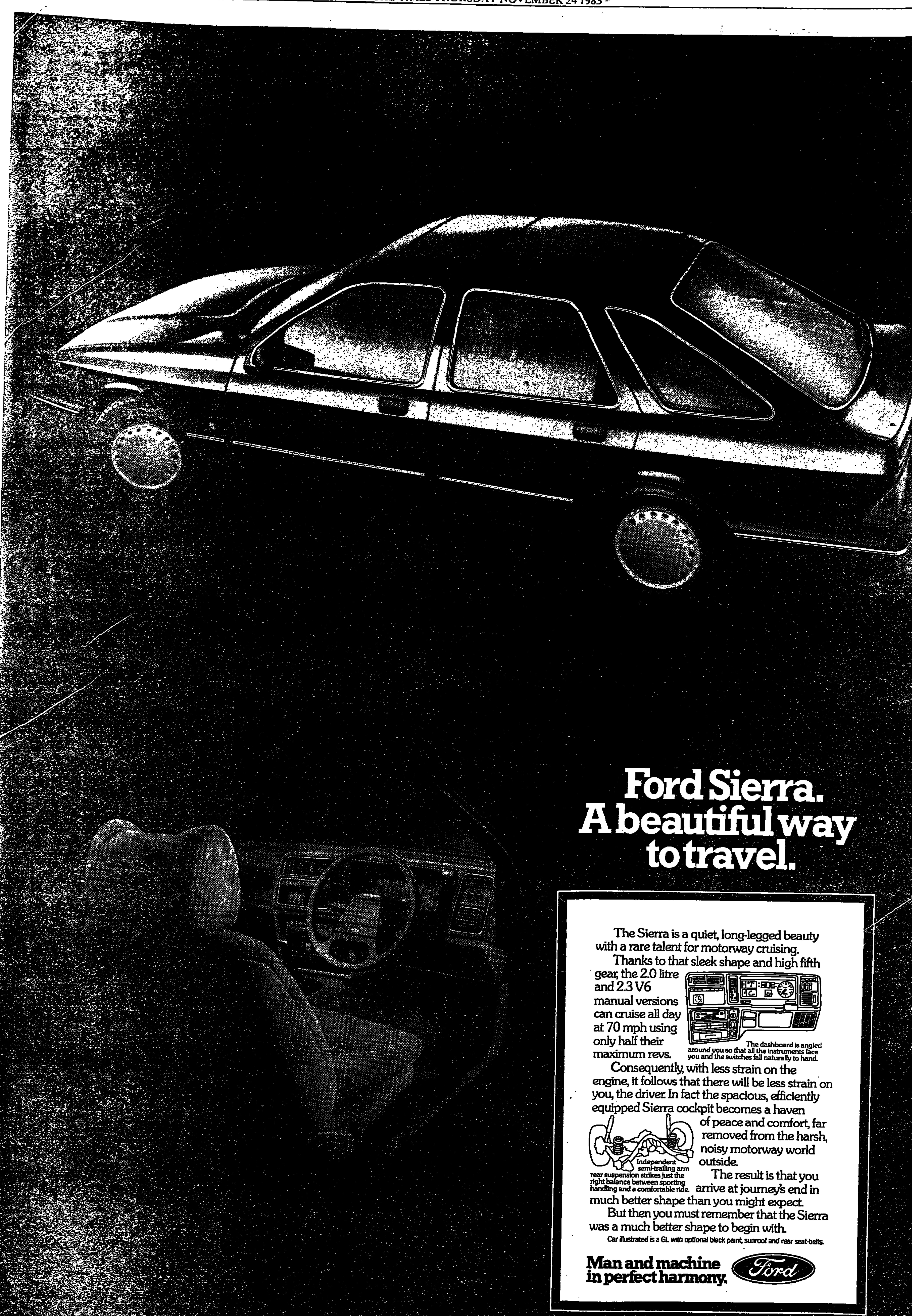

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MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

L & M fears of a predator

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 14. Dealings end, Nov 25. Contango Day, Nov 28. Settlement Day, Dec 5.

Talk of a big build up of shares in **London & Manchester Group** woke the rest of the life insurance sector from its slumbers with a jolt yesterday.

Shares of London & Manchester responded to the speculation that a mystery buyer might be prowling around with a *leap o: 21p to a new high of* 461p, before closing at 456p – a net rise on the day of 16p. At this level the entire group is valued at £105m.

The flurry of activity in the market was star by reports that one buyer was bidding 448p a share outside the market – 8p above Tuesday's close. However, this was being discounted by close observers last night. L & M was quick to deny any knowledge of a predator. A spokesman for the company said: "I have no knowledge that anybody is building up a stake in the company".

L & M's biggest shareholders, at present, include Sun Alliance with 10 per cent of the shares. BR Pension Fund with 6 per cent and the Kuwait Investment Office with 5 per cent.

But the excitement succeeded in producing some persistent buying in a thin market for the other life insurance companies which caught the jobbers on the hop. **Britannic** rose 6p to 434p, **Sun Life** 13p to 596p, **Refuge Assurance** 6p to 402p, **Prudential** rose 8p to 448p, **Pearl Assurance** 15p to 742p, **Legal & General** 8p to 494p and **Hambro Life** 12p to 446p.

The rest of the equity market spent a quiet day after renewed weakness in oils and gilts following the continuing fall in the oil price of the Rotterdam spot market.

It looks as though A & M Hire, which hires out antique furniture to the film and television industry, is going to exceed comfortably its pretax profits forecast of £700,000, made when it joined the USM in September. After the company revealed increased interim profits of £340,000, the market is now looking for nearer £800,000 for the year against £455,000 last time. The shares slipped ½p to 22p.

Oils suffered a sharp mark down with BP 6p off at 404p, after 400p, **Burmah** 4p at 169p, **Lasmo** 6p at 250p, **Ultramar** 5p at 637p, while **Tricentrol** recovered to close unchanged at 198p. Only **Shell** made any headway rising 2p to 558p.

Britoil was another weak market sliding 4p to 192p, after 188p, as a line of over 1 million shares was eventually found a home.

The International Energy Agency sees an increase of 1½ million barrels a day in demand next year, but with stock levels of 100 days, a repeat of last year's stock run down is unlikely.

The troubles in the oil sector cut short the rest of the market's attempts at extending Tuesday's run with the FT Index closing 1.3 down at 724.4 after being 0.5 up earlier in the day.

Wall Street's record breaking run gave little impetus with gilts giving up 75p in longs on news of higher interest rates in Europe.

Sugar company **Tate & Lyle** dissolved 4p to 390p as a line of 300,000 shares appeared on the scene with few takers on hand.

Brokers Laurence Prust has been taking a close look at the fruit and veg importer, Albert Fisher, and likes what it sees. Since Mr Tony Millar took over the hot seat last year he has wiped out losses of £29,000 and should produce pretax profits of about £1m this time round. Laurence Prust is now looking for further growth and recommends the shares as a "buy". They rose 1p to 55p.

On the over-the-counter market, Harvard Securities has decided to pull the prospectus on its latest newcomer **Petroleum Mining** just a couple of days before dealings were due to start in the 5 million shares offered at 70p.

Mr Tom Wilmot at Harvard said: "The timing was not right". Investors who applied for the shares will have their cheques returned together with a small interest payment to cover the time the cheques were held.

Also on the OTC Taddale's rights issue has been a flop. Of the 21.7 million shares offered 11.8 million have been left with the underwriters.

The drawn out battle for control of **Tecalemit**, the garage equipment group, continued yesterday when Siebe Gorman announced it had bought a further 100,000 shares at 50p a share.

It now owns a total of 5.75 million shares amounting to 16.82 per cent of the total. Sieve Gorman, the dafety products specialist, launched its £18m bid back in September.

The London Trust has reduced its stake in Myso Group, the heating and air conditioning quipment group, with the sale of 1 million shares for an undisclosed sum. LT now owns 3.2 million shares amounting to 6.5 per cent of the issued equity.

THE TIMES INDEX

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

1982/83 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
99 11/32	87⅛	Fund 5½% 1982-84	99 11/32	+1/32	5.535	9.465
103¼	91⅝	Exch 11¼% 1984	100⅝	..	11.207	9.118
107⅛	96½	Exch 14% 1984	102¼	-1/16	13.692	9.233
97	81¼	Exch 3% 1984	97	● ..	3.093	8.556
105¼	91½	Treas 12% 1984	102	-1/16	11.765	9.390
111⅞	96¼	Treas 15% 1985	105½	..	14.218	10.070
112⅜	82½	Exch Cv 12% 1985	102 7/16	-1/16	11.714	9.972
93¾	73¾	Treas 3% 1985	93 11/16	..	3.202	7.568
105⅞	87⅞	Treas 11½% 1986	102¼	-⅛	11.268	10.061
102	95½	Treas C 8¾% 1985	98¼	..	8.908	9.819
107⅞	88⅝	Exch 12¼% 1985	103½	-1/16	11.835	10.249
106¾	86⅛	Exch 11¼% 1986	102⅜	-1/16	11.449	10.358
102¾	98 11/16	Treas C 10% 1986	102	-¼	9.804	9.026
89⅛	69¼	Treas 3% 1986	88⅜	-⅛	3.396	8.277
101 15/16	97¼	Exch C 10½% 1986	100⅞	-¼	10.407	10.096
107⅞	86¼	Treas 12% 1986	103 1/16	● ..	11.643	10.596
99⅞	80¼	Treas 8¾% 1984-86	96⅜	-⅛	8.843	10.199
116⅝	96⅝	Treas C 12¾% 1986	111	..	11.036	7.544
114	92	Exch 14% 1986	107 13/16	-1/16	12.984	10.794
111⅞	90⅜	Exch 13¼% 1987	105 15/16	-1/16	12.506	10.932
100	95⅜	Treas C 10¼% 1987	99¾	-¼	10.274	10.317
84 1/16	67¼	Exch 2½% 1987	82⅜	-⅛	3.021	8.695
103⅞	95¾	Exch 10½% 1987	99¼	-1/16	10.582	10.758
94⅞	73⅞	Fund 6½% 1985-87	90⅜	-⅛	7.192	9.872
98¼	97 1/16	Treas 10% 1987	97¾	-¼	10.232	10.756
85¼	64½	Treas 3% 1987	82¼	-⅛	3.653	8.852
109	85⅞	Treas 12% 1987	103 7/16	-3/16	11.601	10.890
97¾	72½	Treas 7¾% 1985-88	91⅞	-⅛	8.482	10.326
101⅞	95	Exch 10½% 1988	99¼	-3/16	10.561	10.710
106	95	Treas IL 2% 1988	103⅞	..		3.882
81⅝	60	Trans 3% 1978-88	78⅞	..	3.803	8.656
99	91	Treas 9½% 1988	95¼	-1/16	9.978	10.752

MEDIUMS

1982/83 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
107⅞	79¾	Treas 11½% 1989	105	-⅛	11.274	10.965
103	95	Treas 10½% 1989	97⅞	●-¼	10.689	10.892
85⅜	63½	Treas 5% 1986-89	82	-¼	6.141	9.146
117¼	85¾	Treas 13% 1990	113½	-¼	11.953	10.979
111⅞	85½	Exch 12½% 1990	108⅜	-¼	11.717	11.007
98	70⅛	Treas 8¼% 1987-90	90½	●-⅛	9.070	10.180
110⅜	78	Treas 11¾% 1991	107⅞	-¼	11.360	11.026
84⅜	58¾	Fund 5¾% 1987-91	81¼	..	7.148	9.503
104¼	76½	Exch 11% 1991	101⅜	-¼	10.912	10.842
116⅝	82	Treas 12¾% 1992	113⅜	-½	11.661	10.970
102¼	76¼	Treas 10% 1992	99¼	..	10.297	10.518
112¾	80⅜	Exch 12¼% 1992	109¾	-½	11.486	11.031
118¾	88¾	Exch 13½% 1992	115⅜	-½	11.921	11.102
116½	80⅜	Treas 12½% 1993	113½	-½	11.480	10.967
81⅜	56½	Fund 6% 1993	78⅜	-¼	7.733	9.576
124⅝	88	Treas 13¾% 1993	116½	-½	11.805	11.003
128	91⅜	Treas 14½% 1994	125	-½	11.922	10.944
119¼	88½	Exch 13½% 1994	115⅞	-½	11.758	11.069
115½	80¼	Exch 12½% 1994	112⅜	-½	11.427	10.979
96¼	66⅜	Treas 9% 1994	92½	-⅜	9.751	10.184
113⅞	76½	Treas 12% 1995	111⅛	-½	11.203	10.874
66⅞	42¾	Gas 3% 1990-95	64½	-⅜	4.665	7.770
103¼	69½	Exch 10¼% 1995	100⅜	-½	10.535	10.652
116½	83½	Treas 12¾% 1995	113½	-½	11.267	10.776
127¼	86⅛	Treas 14% 1996	124¾	-½	11.674	10.978
97⅛	65⅜	Treas 9% 1992-96	93⅜	-⅜	9.783	10.155
133¼	96½	Treas 15¼% 1996	129⅞	-⅝	11.851	10.974
120⅝	87⅛	Exch 13¼% 1996	117½	-⅝	11.311	10.730
111½	93	Treas IL 2% 1996	106	..		3.480
70⅛	43¾	Rdmptn 3% 1986-96	69⅞	-¼	4.322	6.538
125⅞	85½	Treas 13¼% 1997	122⅛	-½	11.272	10.719
105⅜	68¾	Exch 10½% 1997	102⅛	-½	10.485	10.474
94⅛	64	Treas 8¾% 1997	91½	-¼	9.781	10.190
132⅜	94¼	Exch 15% 1997	129⅜	-⅝	11.682	10.966
79¼	54½	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	76⅜	-¼	8.858	9.886
139¼	99½	Treas 15½% 1998	135½	-⅝	11.638	10.941
116¼	78¼	Exch 12% 1998	110½	-⅝	10.875	10.614

LONGS

1982/83 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
100¾	66	Treas 9½% 1999	98½	-⅜	9.999	10.137
116	81¼	Exch 12¼% 1999	114½	-⅜	10.890	10.589
105⅞	71⅛	Treas 10½% 1999	101½	-⅜	10.360	10.331
98⅜	91½	Tr IL Cv 2½% 1999	96	..	..	3.054
124⅛	82¼	Treas 13% 2000	123⅜	-⅜	10.940	10.560
130⅞	89	Treas 14% 1998-01	123⅜	-⅝	11.338	10.764
104	92¾	Treas IL 2½% 2001	97¼	..	..	3.262
116⅜	79⅜	Exch 12% 1999-02	115⅜	-⅜	10.788	10.494
129½	85⅞	Treas 13¾% 2000-03	128½	-⅜	11.106	10.651
103½	91¼	Treas IL 2½% 2003	96¼	..	..	3.215
113⅜	73¼	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112½	-⅜	10.418	10.210
50¾	33¼	Fund 3½% 1999-04	50⅜	-¼	7.104	8.905
123	82	Treas 12½% 2003-05	118⅞	-⅜	10.521	10.273
107¼	88	Treas IL 2% 2006	100¼	..	..	3.129
87½	59⅞	Treas 8% 2002-06	86	-⅜	9.425	9.650
117⅜	75⅞	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116⅜	-⅜	10.428	10.219
129⅜	90¼	Treas 13½% 2004-08	129	-⅜	10.646	10.326
104¼	91½	Treas IL 2½% 2009	96	..	..	3.098
103½	90	Treas IL 2½% 2011	102	..	..	3.087
65⅜	44⅜	Treas 5½% 2008-12	64	-¼	8.751	9.193
86¾	55¾	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	85⅜	-⅜	9.361	9.470
123⅞	81½	Exch 12% 2013-17	119¾	●-⅜	9.973	9.863
100¼	88	Treas IL 2½% 2016	93¾	..	..	2.989
42⅜	27⅜	Consols 4%	41½	-¼	10.005	..
37⅛	26⅜	War Ln 3½%	36	●-¼	9.739	..
47¼	31⅜	Conv 3½%	45⅜	-⅜	7.907	..
32½	21	Treas 3%	30⅜	-½	9.809	..
27⅛	17¾	Consols 2½%	25¾	..	9.842	..
26⅞	17⅜	Treas. 2½% Aft 75	25½	..	9.951	..

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

1982/83 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
21	102¾	Aust 13½% 2010	121	+½	11.577	11.480
37	25	Hungary 4½% 1924	32	..	..	..
02	230	Japan Ass 4% 1910	290	..	..	..
92	64	Japan 6% 83-88	84	..	..	..
12½	98½	N Z 14½% 1987	109	-½	12.857	11.045
94	57	N Z 7½% 88-92	84	..	8.938	10.657
94½	74¾	N Z 7½% 83-86	91⅜	●-⅛	8.172	11.276
60	150	Peru 6% Ass	160	..	..	..
81	136	S Rhd 2½% 65-70	180	..	..	..
23	80	S Rhd 4½% 87-92	121	..	..	..
40½	40	Spanish 4%	40	..	..	..
95	85	Uruguay 5%	85	..	..	..
02	318	Zimbabwe Ann 81-88	340	..	..	16.175

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1982/83 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
26¼	19½	L C C 3% 1920	25¼	..	12.018	..
97¼	79	L C C 5½% 82-84	97¼	..	5.654	9.922
85	64¾	L C C 5½% 85-87	84½	● ..	6.509	10.880
86	58¾	L C C 6¾% 88-90	82⅞	..	8.437	11.081
81	54	G L C 6¾% 90-92	78½	..	8.801	11.141
99⅛	78½	Ag Mt 7½% 81-84	98⅛	..	7.896	10.189
78½	57¾	Ag Mt 7½% 91-93	78	..	10.117	11.835
77½	57¾	Ag Mt 6½% 85-90	77	..	8.744	11.929
37½	24¾	Met Water B 34-03	34¼	..	8.793	11.631
99½	81¼	N I 7% 82-84	98¼	+⅛	7.056	8.645
90	69¾	Swark 6¾% 83-86	89⅜	..	7.522	10.869

DOLLAR STOCKS

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
21 7/16	5 9/16	Brascan	£21 7/16	+¼	82.8	3.9	39.4
27½	11⅛	Can Pac Ord	£27⅜	+½	70.2	2.6	8.0
16	8¼	El Paso	£16	..	41.7	2.6	30.0
26 5/16	14½	Exxon Corp	£25 9/16	+5/16	..	..	..
28⅜	22	Florida Power	£28⅜	..	238	8.4	9.0
15⅞	7 9/32	Fluor	£11 15/16	-1/16	49.6	4.2	9.5
16½	10½	Hollinger	£13⅜	-⅛	..	..	..
695	220	*Husky Oil*	575	-10	..	..	..
12¼	4 29/32	INCO	£9 23/32	+13/32	12.7	1.4	..
13⅞	6 1/16	IU Int	£17 7/16	+1/16	73.2	4.2	19.2

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
79	59	Ass Fisheries	77	..	3.2	4.2	8.4
111	50⅝	Ass Leisure	106	..	5.9	5.6	12.1
418	136	Ass News	368	..	14.9	4.0	17.3
94	49½	Ass Paper	91	..	6.0b	6.6	7.1
160	77	Attwoods PLC	138	..	5.0	3.6	20.5
57	25	Ault & Wiborg	37	-2	1.2	3.2	12.4
24	7	Aurora PLC	9	..	..	..	..
12	9	Do 9% Cnv Pref	10	..	1.3	12.9	..
59	20	Automotive Pd	31	..	0.7	2.3	..
137	67	Avon Rubber	113	..	1.4	1.3	..
184¾	85¾	B.A.T. Ind	150	..	10.2	6.8	4.7
43	22	BBA Grp	31	● +1	2.5	8.0	14.4
278	138	BET Dfd	270	+2	14.3	5.3	11.1
360	210	BICC	225	● +2	15.1	6.7	9.9
81	73	BL PLC	56	..	..	..	..
250	145	BOC	242	+3	8.4	3.5	10.8
297½	159	BPB Ind	271	-2	8.6	3.2	12.1
119	25½	B P C C	119	+2	7.1b	6.0	12.8
105	66	BPM Hldgs 'A'	98	..	8.3	8.4	17.1
22	9½	BSG Int	15½	● ..	0.5	3.2	..
180	43¾	BSR PLC	155	-5	2.0b	1.3	..
382	208	BTR PLC	317	● ..	14.3b	3.8	20.8
189	97	Babcock Int	138	-1	10.0	7.2	13.0
116	50	Baggeridge Brk	116	..	6.6	5.7	14.5
17	5¼	Bailey C.H. Ord	10	..	..	..	..
300	176	Baird W.	292	-1	21.5b	7.4	8.3
98	27⅞	Bairstow Eves	77	..	2.3b	3.0	21.5
118	78	Baker Perkins	101	..	7.3	7.2	8.6
60	43	Banro Ind	46	..	4.7	10.2	14.2
11¼	5½	Barker & Dobson	10½	-¼	..	..	..
820	270	Barlow Rand	702	-3	41.7b	5.9	7.4
276	113¾	Barratt Devs	176	-12	10.6	6.0	8.8
36	21	Barrow Hepbn	30	..	3.1	10.5	29.1
157	62	Bath & P'land	134	..	8.6b	6.4	10.6
42⅜	24	Bayer	£42½	+¼	104	2.5	19.9
249	158	Beatson Clark	165	..	12.9	7.8	6.1
74	24	Beauford Grp	51	..	5.0	9.8	4.7
86	70	Beckman A.	81	● ..	8.2	10.1	11.4
412¾	218¾	Beecham Grp	318	-3	13.0b	4.1	14.4
174	109	Bejam Grp	153	..	4.6	3.0	18.8
139	78½	Bellway PLC	123	● ..	10.0	8.1	6.8
276	44	*Bemrose Corp*	275	..	14.9	6.9	9.7
50⅝	12	Benlox Hldgs	33	+1	1.4	4.3	14.3
206	119	Berisf'ds S. & W.	192	-1	12.9	6.7	7.4
351	115	Bespak	300	..	4.3	1.4	18.0
443	285	Bestobell	323	+3	19.3	6.0	12.8
354	137⅞	Bibby J.	354	..	10.6	3.0	17.7
29¾	8	Blackwd Hodge	10	..	..e	..	..
120	76	Blagden Ind	100	..	9.0	9.0	13.9
550	383	Blue Circle Ind	425	-3	26.1	6.1	5.2
155	86¾	Blundell Perm	118	..	8.8	7.3	6.9
388	300	Boase M.P	368	..	6.4b	1.7	31.2
62	35	Bodycote	52	● +1	5.0b	9.6	6.4
97	58	Booker McCon	84	● +2	5.6	6.6	7.9
183	95½	Boots	162	..	6.8	4.2	15.1
28	7	Borthwick T.	25	-1	..e	..	..
9	4½	Boulton W.	5¼	..	0.1	2.7	..
260	151	Bowater Corp	224	+5	11.1b	4.9	10.0
313	185	Bowthrpe Hldgs	241	..	6.0	2.5	16.0
200	100	Braithwaite	200	..	13.0	6.5	6.9
52	25	Bremner	45	..	3.1	7.0	31.5
138	79	Brent Chem Int	81	-1	3.6	4.4	20.8
264	170	Brit Aerospace	202	-1	12.4	6.2	..
232	87½	Brit Car Auctn	228	+3	7.5	3.3	19.8
236	119	Brit Home Strs	227	● +1	7.5	3.3	17.4
191	125	Brit Vita	183	..	8.0	4.4	13.5
816	350	Broken Hill	816	+6	25.0	3.1	7.7
43	16	Brook St Bur	43	..	0.1	0.3	..
75	48	Brooke Bond	74½	● -½	5.9	7.9	10.3
32	8	Brooke Tool	12	..	..e	..	20.0
102	64½	Brown & Tawse	92	+1	5.5	6.0	9.4
88	18	BBK (H)	67	● ..	1.4	2.1	17.0
66	14	Brown J.	16	..	..	..	..
75	37	Bryant Hldgs	52	..	7.5b	14.4	7.4
388	154	Bunzl	383	..	13.6	3.5	14.6
58	46	Burgess Prod	48	● ..	2.1	4.5	..
487½	163	Burnett & H'shire	173	..	12.5	7.2	3.5
364	130	Burton Grp	382	+6	11.9	3.1	16.8
35	12	Butterfld-Harvy	23	..	0.7	3.1	..

C — E

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
30	15½	CH Inds	26	..	2.4	9.3	6.4
347⅞	142⅝	Cable & Wireless	293	-5	8.2	2.8	14.2
131	85	Cadbury Sch	112	..	7.1	6.4	10.2
146	78	*Caffyns*	142	..	6.4	4.5	..
150	100	C'bread R'by Ord	148	● ..	4.1	2.8	24.5
285	90	Cambridge Elec	260	..	7.6	2.9	20.2
330	180	Can O'seas Pack	285	● ..	15.5	5.5	6.0
64	29	Cantors A NV	61	+3	2.1	3.5	5.5
37½	18	Caparo Ind	32½	..	2.0	6.2	36.5
33	28	Caparo Props	31	..	..	..	..
64½	12½	Capper Neill	14½	..	..	..	..
92	43	Carclo Eng	92	..	6.5	7.1	8.1
391	205	Carlton Com	385	-5	5.7a	1.5	38.5
82	10	Carpets Int	61	-1	..e	..	..

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
122	32	Grattan PLC	56	..	..e	..	21.0
641	433	Gt Univ Stores	583	..	20.0	3.4	12.8
636	428	Do A	576	..	20.0	3.5	12.7
146	86	Gripperrods	128	..	6.6	5.2	5.8
168	83⅝	Grosvenor Grp	166	● +6	7.5	4.5	11.5
186	115	GKN	166	+2	11.4b	6.9	20.0
138	79	H.A.T. Grp	109	..	4.8b	4.3	14.7
187	108	HTV	187	..	15.7	8.4	6.6
302	105	Habitat	286	+2	7.6	2.7	19.8

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
266	125	Martin News	163	..	8.6	5.3	7.3
298	213	Martonair	234	● ..	12.1	5.2	12.2
172	90	Matthews B.	157	..	7.9	5.1	5.5
95	59	May & Hassell	91	..	5.4	6.0	6.9
73	53	Medminster	70	..	6.3	9.0	6.7
368	215	Menzies J.	298	● ..	7.7	2.6	10.4
288	140	Metal Box	282	-6	17.6	6.2	11.2
58	33⅛	Metalrax	45	..	3.1b	7.0	10.9
168	56	Meyer Int	149	..	5.4	3.6	11.9
167	82	Milletts Leis	135	● ..	9.9	7.4	..
137	21	Mining Supplies	38	..	0.1	0.4	..
55	31½	Mitchell Cotts	48½	-½	5.2	10.7	10.8
56	17	Moben Grp	28	..	0.4	1.3	8.0
30	17	Modern Eng	28	..	..	..	..
183	96	Molins	114	+3	11.3	9.9	4.9
147	54	Monk A.	129	-1	8.6	6.6	5.4
9	4	Montecatini	8	..	..	..	..
60	18	Montfort Knit	28	..	..	..	..
110⅜	66	More O'Ferrall	73	..	4.3	5.8	11.7
130	76	Morgan Cruc	119	● ..	10.2	8.5	24.6

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
326	143¾	Standard Tel	274	..	9.6	3.5	21.2
74	32	Stanley A. G.	49	..	1.4	2.9	41.9
395	208	Steel Bros	395	..	17.1	4.3	9.2
229	127	Steetley Co	205	-3	10.0b	4.9	31.9
142	42½	*Steinberg*	125	..	2.9b	2.3	15.7
53	20	Streeters	21	..	..	..	..
83	21	Strong & Fisher	72	+4	..	..	19.8
265	91	Sunlight Serv	290	-5	10.9	4.3	13.0
305	228	Superdrug	265	..	5.0b	2.0	30.2
45	17	Sutcliffe S'man	30	..	..e	..	13.4
78	23	Suter Elec	76	..	2.9b	3.8	..
158½	62	Swire Pacific 'A'	120	-1½	..	..	..

T — Z

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
17⅛	13⅛	TDK	13⅝	..	9.2	0.7	22.7
182	90	TI Group	154	+8	10.7	7.0	..
186	14	TACE	134	-1	4.3	3.2	45.0
106	40	TSL Therm Synd	41	..	..	..	7.5
26	13	TSW	26	+2½	1.7	6.6	10.4
25 9/16	16⅝	Takeda BDR	£21½	..	17.6	0.8	23.5

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 23	Market rates (close) November 23	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4675-1.4735	$1.4685-1.4695	0.04-0.09c disc	0.20-0.25c disc
Montreal	$1.8160-1.8220	$1.8170-1.8180	par-0.10c disc	0.04-0.14c disc
Amsterdam	4.43½-4.46fl	4.43¾-4.44¾fl	1½-1c prem	3½-3c prem
Brussels	80.40-80.80f	80.45-80.55f	3-13c disc	18-28c disc
Copenhagen	14.26-14.31k	14.26½-14.27½k	149-232ore disc	336-450ore disc
Dublin	1.2715-1.2775p	1.2750-1.2768p	19-37p disc	88-101p disc
Frankfurt	3.95-3.97½m	3.95½-3.96½m	1¼-1pf prem	3¼-2¾pf prem
Lisbon	188.00-189.50e	188.25-188.75e	120-335c disc	465-990c disc
Madrid	227.25-228.00p	227.70-227.90p	150-270c disc	380-775c disc
Milan	*2392-2401lr*	*2393-2395lr*	*15½-17½lr disc*	*49-52lr disc*
Oslo	10.98½-11.03½k	10.99½-11.00½k	368-435ore disc	1011-1067ore disc
Paris	12.03-12.08f	12.03¾-12.04¾f	3-4c disc	12-13½c disc
Stockholm	11.65-11.69k	11.66-11.67k	285-351ore disc	762-828ore disc
Tokyo	343½-346½y	344-345y	0.92-0.79y prem	2.45-2.27y prem
Vienna	27.80-27.95sch	27.85-27.90sch	8-6gro prem	22-18gro prem
Zurich	3.18½-3.21f	3.19-3.20f	1½-1¼c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 83.4 down 0.1.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9¼ Low 8½

Week Fixed: 8⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		*Selling*	
2 months	8 31/32	2 months	8 29/32
3 months	8 27/32	3 months	8 27/32

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	9-8 31/32	1 month	9⅝
2 months	8 31/32-8 29/32	2 months	9 19/32
3 months	8 29/32-8 27/32	3 months	9 17/32
6 months	8 29/32-8⅞	6 months	9 17/32

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9⅝-9½	7 months	9 11/16-9 9/16
2 months	9⅝-9½	8 months	9 11/16-9 9/16
3 months	9½-9⅜	9 months	9 11/16-9 9/16
4 months	9½-9⅜	10 months	9 13/16-9 9/16
5 months	9½-9⅜	11 months	9 11/16-9 9/16
6 months	9½-9¼	12 months	9 11/16-9 9/16

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9¼-9 3/16	6 months	9 9/32-8 7/32
3 months	9 7/32-9 3/16	12 months	9 13/32-9⅜

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8⅞	3 months	9¼
7 days	8⅞	6 months	9⅜
1 month	9⅛	1 year	9½

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 9 Close 8½

1 week	9-8½	6 months	9½-9⅜
1 month	9¼-9 3/16	9 months	9 11/16-9 9/16
3 months	9 5/16-9¼	12 months	9¾-9⅝

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9 5/16 6 months 9½

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Other Markets

Australia	1.5920-1.6070
Bahrein	0.5535-0.5565
Finland	8.4645-8.5045
Greece	141-143
Hongkong	11.4860-11.5360
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4280-0.4310
Malaysia	3.4345-3.4645
Mexico	240-265
New Zealand	2.2225-2.2425
Saudi Arabia	5.1070-5.1370
Singapore	3.1215-3.1515
South Africa	1.7625-1.7775

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.2711-1.2731
+ Canada	1.2373-1.2376
Netherlands	3.0260-3.0280
Belgium	54.75-54.80
Denmark	9.7120-9.7150
West Germany	2.7010-2.7015
Portugal	128-129
Spain	154.95-155.05
Italy	1631-1633
Norway	7.4770-7.4800
France	8.2010-8.2040
Sweden	7.9330-7.9360
Japan	234.55-234.70
Austria	18.9750-18.9850
Switzerland	2.1765-2.1775

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8083-0.8086

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 9-10; seven days, 9¼-9; one month, 9 7/16-9 5/16; three months, 9 11/16-9 11/16; six months, 10-9⅞.

Gold

Gold fixed: am. $375.75 (an ounce); pm. $375.75 close. $375.75-376.50 (£255-256).

Krugerrand* (per coin): $387-388.5 (£263.50-264.50).

Sovereigns* (new): $88-89 (£60-60.50).
* Excludes VAT

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Casting doubts on all the soothsayers

All economic forecasting, according to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "is extremely suspect and unreliable." This was his initial response to my suggestion that soothsayers outside Whitehall were noticeably more pessimistic about the future growth and the rate of inflation than the Treasury in last week's Autumn Statement.

The point is well made today: the National Institute sees growth faltering and inflation rising, whereas the Treasury predicted that the present three per cent growth rate would be maintained and that inflation, by the end of next year, would be down to 4½ per cent.

Not unnaturally, while maintaining his own scepticism, Mr Lawson would advise anyone wishing to believe in economic forecasts to believe the Treasury's, "because the Treasury since 1979 has a better track record."

So much for the broad canvas. Of all last week's forecasts, the one that caused most eyebrows to rise was the seemingly cautious figure of an extra net £400m (to £1,900m) from the sale of state assets to private investors.

The Chancellor admitted to being "a little bit cautious". Although not the Treasury's figure, the market has been thinking in terms of £4,000m from the sale alone of 51 per cent of British Telecom.

It is now absolutely clear that this huge marketing operation will be well spread overtime: the sales' proceeds pencilled in the 1984-85 forecasts are merely the first part payment.

The final reckoning will obviously depend on the state of the market at the time of the sale and also on the degree of American buying interest which the Treasury and its City marketeers can drum up.

Mr Lawson is pretty sanguine about the future level of pay settlements. The level in the private sector has been falling steadily without an incomes policy, but under pressure, most would argue, from recession, falling output and rising unemployment.

On the evidence so far, he does not consider economic recovery will bring intolerable pay settlements. The message to managements is still: "If they get into difficulties by paying excessive wages we are not going to pump money into the economy simply to get them off the hook."

In the conventional sense, Mr Lawson does not have a burning ambition to be a tax-reforming Chancellor.

"There's a close connexion," he observed, "between tax reform and tax simplification on the one hand and tax reduction on the other. In practical and political terms, it is very difficult to simplify the taxation system – which could do with simplification – and indeed to introduce any other kind of reform, unless at the same time you're lowering the burden of taxation. I don't however, seek to redraw the whole tax system in this country."

That said, he does have priorities if and when he is in a position to cut taxes. Industry, he feels, "hasn't done too badly lately". Nevertheless, the taxation of industry "is something I would have to take into account when the time comes to weigh up the relative priorities".

His last words in the interview were on the international debt situation. In his view: "The main problem is the excessively high level of dollar interest rates", which went back directly to the size of the American budget deficit. "That is about the biggest cloud on the horizon economically."

It meant that interest rates "will be higher than they would otherwise be, and that is a very serious matter for the debtor countries".

Lawson interview, page 12

Aspinall plays his Anglo hand

Aspinall Holdings has lost no time in doing deals way beyond its Mayfair gaming tables. Just a week after gaining a quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market, it revealed yesterday that it had spent £4.25m buying a 10 per cent stake in Anglo Scottish Investment Trust.

The buying earlier stoutly denied, started the day Aspinall's own shares were first quoted. It has all the hallmarks of Sir James Goldsmith who, like Mr John Aspinall, has a 40 per cent stake in Aspinall Holdings. In particular, it shows his prediliction for making money out of a messy situation.

Anglo Scottish is already at the centre of a row. It used to be managed by Gartmore Management. But they were dismissed after Exco International took control of Gartmore in August. Instead Mr Eric Crawford and Mr Sam Stevenson, joint managing directors of Gartmore resigned, set up CS Investments and won the management contract, due to start today. Institutional shareholders, are forcing a vote on the change because Mr Crawford is an Anglo director.

Mr Richard Langdon, Aspinall chairman, maintains his company's holding is an investment rather than a platform for some kind of takeover.

Mr Crawford is not so sure. "It is unlikely it is just there as a holding; they probably have other things on their mind. Its not like them to just take a stake and sit tight."

An unanswered question of trust

Unit trust groups are having a record year. Sales hit £2,000m for the 10 months to the end of October, compared with the previous record of £1,157 for the whole of 1982.

Do these figures really reflect massive public confidence in unit trusts as an investment? Many fund managers, perhaps surprisingly, think "not necessarily so".

The 1980 Finance Act gave unit trusts a huge tax advantage over other investment vehicles, exempting them from Capital Gains Tax

Insurance companies which run unitized funds (very similar to unit trusts, but linked with life policies) were slow to react. Since 1980, there has been a dribble of money across from life funds into unit trusts as insurers gradually ran down their unitized funds in favour of unit trusts.

The question is, how much of this year's sales is attributable to genuine buying from the public, and how much is a switch by unitized insurance funds?

Fund managers, anxious to see if they are maintaining their share of new investment by private investors, are pressing the Unit Trust Association to ask members to provide a breakdown of sales, separating institutional business from private investment.

Most fund managers are ready and willing to do this, but two major groups, both merchant banks, refuse to comply. That is a pity.

Institute forecast on growth contradicts Treasury

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A slowdown in economic growth, rising unemployment and higher inflation are forecast for next year, by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, marking a stark contrast with the optimism of the Treasury and some other private forecasters.

The institute's latest economic review expects national output next year to average about 2 per cent more than this year, similar to the rise between 1982 and 1983. But, it says, looking at average levels "obscures the view taken of prospects from now on".

Output is forecast to increase at an annual rate of little more than 1 per cent over the next two years, too slow to stop unemployment from climbing further.

In 1985, if policy remains unchanged, unemployment will be 400,000 higher than today at 3.3 million.

The Treasury's latest forecasts, published last week, predict growth of 3 per cent this year and next, with unemployment stabilizing below 3 million, and inflation dropping to 4.5 per cent by the end of next year.

The main difference between the institute and the Treasury lies in their assessment of what is likely to happen to consumer spending. The institute predicts growth of only 0.3 per cent next year as inflation, rising to nearly 7 per cent by the end of 1984, catches up with pay increases and the impact of easier credit terms fades.

The Treasury is assuming a 2.5 per cent rise in consumer spending, after 3.5 per cent this year, on the expectation that inflation will ease further and consumers will continue to borrow heavily.

On investment, exports and stocks there is little difference of opinion between the two.

The institute has also looked five years ahead to 1988, using simulations based on different sets of assumptions. On persent policies, it says, the economy might grow by about 1.5 per cent a year, with unemployment rising to 3.5 million and inflation sticking at between 7 per cent and 7.5 per cent.

The simulations suggest output and unployment could be boosted by more expansionary fiscal policies, including tax cuts and higher public spending, with relatively little cost in higher inflation.

But the istitute gives a warning that: "With North Sea production now at or near its peak, the need to maintain a tolerable balance of payments could re-emerge as an obstacle to faster growth in the next few years."

● The pace of job losses in manufacturing industry slowed further in the third quarter this year, while productivity picked up sharply, according to the November issue of the Department of Emloyment *Gazette*.

Manufacturing employment fell by 29,000 between July and September, compared with 58,000 in the previous three months and 90,000 in the last quarter of 1982.

The number of people with jobs in the economy as a whole has begun to rise for the first time since late 1979, according to employment department statisticians. An increase in employment in the service industries, coupled with an assumed increase of 25,000 in the self-employed, produced a rise of 18,000 in the employed labour force in the second quarter.

Fraser wins court case

The House of Fraser stores group yesterday defeated an action in the Edinburgh Court of Sesion by Lonrho, its leading shareholder, over plans to spend £100m on modernizing about 50 stores.

Lonrho's two directors on the Fraser board had applied to the court for an interim interdict whic would have prevented Fraser proceeding with its plans until the full board had been given detailed information

Major decisions of Fraser are taken by an executive committee, but referred back to the full board for approval. Fraser says that had the case been won by Lord Duncan-Sandys, Lonrho chairman, and Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, they would have been able to take Fraser to court to justify major items of capital expenditure.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 724.4 down 1.3
FT Gilts: 83.19 down 0.27
FT All Share: 452.56 down 0.80
Bargains: 18,035
Datastream USM Leaders Index:94.55 down 0.2
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1,276.93 up 1.12
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 833.97 down 2.0
Amsterdam:152.1 up 1.6
Sydney: AO Index 722.2 up 4.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1012.5 up 9.2
Brussels: General Index 126.73 unch.
Paris: CAC Index 150.3 up 0.6
Zurich: SKA General 296.5 up 1.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4690 down 45pts
Index 83.4 down 0.1
DM 3.96 down 0.0050
FrF 12.0425 down 0.0325
Yen 344.50 down 1.50
Dollar
Index 128.4 unch.
DM 2.6930 down 25
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4680
Dollar DM 2.7040

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 8¾
3 month interbank 9⅝-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 13/16-9 11/16
3 month DM 6 9/16-6 7/16
3 month Fr F13⅛-13
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¼
Treasury long bond 102 21/32-102 25/32
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 5 to November 1, 1983 inclusive: 9.393 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $375.75 pm $375.75
close $375.75-$376.50 (£255.256)
New York latest: $375.75
Krugerrand* (per coin): $387-388.50 (£263-264.50)
Sovereigns* (new): $88-89 (£60-60.50)
*Excludes VAT

SE review may halve council membership

By Wayne Lintott

The 46-member governing Council of the Stock Exchange may be cut by more than half under a review now being made by its chairman, Sir Nicholas Goodison. A membership of about 20 is favoured within the Exchange.

The council is expected to announce shortly before Christmas the appointment of at least five lay members to its numbers, now all drawn from member firms. It will also make lay members a majority on the disciplinary appeals committee. A new appeal body will also be formed to cover membership.

The appointments are a central part of the agreement reached by the Stock Exchange with the Government to avoid an appearance before the Restrictive Trade Practices Court. The agreement was ratified by Parliament on Tuesday.

The Government says it wants to see the changes pushed through as quickly as possible, but no names have been mentioned as definite appointees. The council, working with the Bank of England and Department of Trade and Industry, is still seeking suitable candidates prepared to serve.

The review of the council's operating procedure and its control over subordinate committees, on which lay members of the council may also serve, has arisen to make decision making efficient. It is felt in the Stock Exchange that a council consisting of more than 50 members may be too cumbersome.

The eventual number of lay members will be determined by the final dicision on size.

The council is expected to announce tomorrow the long awaited news that member firms may appoint outside non-executive directors to their partnerships or boards to represent the interest of outside shareholders. The senior partners at Smith Brothers, the jobbers, have been lobbying particularly keenly for this.

Also waiting in the wings to appoint outsiders are the four firms in which leading financial institutions have taken the maximum permitted stake, 29.9 per cent.

Sir Nicholas Goodison: aiming for greater efficiency.

Beckett steps up tax policy attack

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, has again risked government censure with his latest warning that increased taxes could kill the economic recovery.

Yesterday, he made one of his strongest attacks on government policy since his declaration three years ago that industry should be prepared for a "bare knuckle fight" with the Government, despite recent criticism that the CBI was "whingeing" in calling for a new government stimulus to the economy.

It would be wrong for Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to raise taxes in next spring's budget Sir Terence said in Nottingham. "It could kill the recovery not sustain it," he said.

The CBI is much less optimistic about the health of the economy than the Government, believing that overall growth next year will slip back to about 2 per cent, compared with the Treasury's more optimistic prediction of 3 per cent.

The consumer boom is solely responsible for the slow upturn in the economy and there are fewer signs that manufacturing industry's prospects will continue to improve, according to CBI surveys.

Delegates at the annual CBI conference this month were in agreement that some stimulus to economic growth could occur hand-in-hand with the continuing drive to reduce inflation and bring down interest rates.

Sir Terence: increased taxes could kill recovery.

Sir Terence also seized the opportunity yesterday to attack Mr Lawson's decisions to raise National Insurance contributions and energy prices.

"Industries like chemicals, paper, glass, steel and man-made fibres are paying 20 per cent more for their electricity than their European rivals. They need a reduction in their charges, not an increase.

Sharp's the word at C & W

By Our Financial Staff

The board of Cable & Wireless lived up to the name of its headquarters building, Mercury, when it sped through an extraordinary meeting yesterday in a record time of 2 minutes 50 seconds.

The meeting had been called to issue a special preference share of £1 to the Government, which intends to sell half its 45 per cent stake soon.

The share gives the Government the power of veto on any winding up of the company or any material disposal of its assets and certain, but unspecified, "other events".

Mr Eric Sharp, chairman, also informed the 20 shareholders that turned up, that article 120 will be altered to ensure that future chief executives of the company are British citizens.

On the dot of 4 pm Mr Sharp called the meeting to order, asked shareholders to take the special resolution as read and then offered to answer any questions. None were asked.

At least 40 seconds were wasted while shareholders dithered over which one would second the motion. That taken care of, they voted unanimously to support the board.

Mr Sharp then thanked them for attending, he hoped they at least had enjoyed a cup of tea – and the meeting was closed.

Call to upgrade local chambers

Britain's chambers of commerce should be given legal status and be beefed up to take over some of the functions carried out by local authorities, according to a report out today.

The chambers could administer trading standards, monitor the disposal of toxic wastes, run local airports and promote tourism and exports, the report says. They could also become more closely involved in vocational training

The report, by Miss Norvela Forster, a Conservative MEP, is the result of an 18-month stydy into European chambers of commerce.

It suggests that membership of chambers could be made obligatory.

Travel agents to merge

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Hogg Robinson Travel, part of the Hogg Robinson insurance group, is understood to have reached agreement yesterday to take over Wakefield Fortune Travel from Holland America Line (HAL). The merger would create the third largest travel agency chain in Britain.

Hogg Robinson would not comment last night.

Talks between Hogg Robinson and Wakefield's privately-owned parent, which has strong Netherlands connexions, have been going on for more than 12 weeks.

Originally the talks are believed to have centred on a price of about £8m for Wakefield, which has 95 branches. The price was later dropped to between £5m and £6m and there was increasing speculation that Hogg Robinson wanted to bring it below £5m.

Although Hogg Robinson has slightly fewer travel shops than Wakefield a merging of the two chains would closely challenge the two largest organizations in the field, Thomas Cook and Pickfords Travel. Cook and Pickfords each has more than 200 outlets.

Wakefield is profitable at the trading level but has not been making a bottom line contribution to HAL because it has been working off losses incurred up to three years ago and is also servicing recent extensive investments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Allianz bid 'waiting for Whitehall'

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank advisers to the West German insurer Allianz Versicherungs, explained yesterday why it has taken so long for Allianz to respond to BAT Industries rival takeover bid for Eagle Star Holdings.

It said Allianz is still awaiting government clearance for its original bid. This approval – that Allianz's chairman is a suitable person to run an insurance company – is expected today or tomorrow.

Alllianz's offer lapses tomorrow but it is not obliged to reveal its next move until Monday.

● **Johnson Matthey**, the precious metal refiners and bankers, suffered a fall in pretax profits from £18.4m to £15.2m in the six months to end September. The divident was maintained at 3p net while earnings per share declined from 15.9 to 15.5p. The shares gained 15p to 223p.

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● **International Thomson Organisation**, the oil and publishing multinational, increased its earnings before extraordinary items for the nine months to the end of September by 36.5 per cent to £60.2m. Earnings per share were 43.2 against 31.7p.

● **One of** the proposals to be put to Unilever's shareholders on December 12 is to restore the authorized capital, not the issued capital, as stated on November 21, to its original figure.

Dow dips in active trading

New York (AP Dow Jones) – Wall Street stocks moved sharply downward in active early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average fell about 3.5 points to 1,272, while the transportation average dropped more than six points to 606.

Declines edged ahead of advances by about seven-to-six.

Honeywell was down 1 at 133¼; **International Business Machines** was down 2¾ to 120¼; **General Motors** fell ⅜ to 76⅜; **Ford** fell 1½ to 64⅜; **Chase Manhattan** fell ⅜ to 46; **Motorola** fell 2½ to 137¼ and

WALL STREET

American Telephone and Telegraph rose ⅛ to 64⅝.

National Semiconductor fell 47¾ to 3¾; **McDonnell Douglas** at 58½ was up 2;

Mr Gene Jay Seagle of Herzfeld & Stern said of the market: "We had a shap enough move up from the 1,215 test area to deserve a day or two of rest here. However, it is clear we are in a renewed phase of the major trend upward.

Barratt attacks TV programme

Private building orders up 9%

By John Lawless

New orders for the private construction industry rose by 9 per cent in the three months ending September over the previous quarter.

But the rise over the same period in 1982 was even more impressive – 16 per cent, the Department of the Environment announced yesterday.

There were strong increases in all sectors except private housing, where there was a 4 per cent fall over the previous three months. Given that private housing starts, announced this month, for the third quarter, were also down on the second – from 46,500 to 42,400 – the private housing situation could cause the Government some anxiety.

New orders in that sector, however, were 21 per cent higher than in the same period in 1982, when there were 38,700 starts.

The figures, based on the value of orders at constant 1980 prices, contrast with public sector housing, which rose 26 per cent, but stood still against the comparable period last year.

A rise in orders could have been expected, however, given the lowly starts figure in the third quarter. At 9,200 it compared with 13,000 in the second quarter, and 12,600 in the same period of 1982.

New orders in the public works rose 10 per cent over the previous quarter, and 25 per cent over the same period in 1982.

Private industrial orders rose 18 and 20 per cent for the two periods, but private commercial orders, mainly for offices, rose by 11 and 4 per cent.

The value of public-sector housing new orders in the third quarter was provisionally put at £253m; and private housing at £771m.

● Barratt Developments has lodged a formal complaint with the Independent Broadcasting Authority alleging that a Granada Television *World in Action* programme breached the authority's guidelines.

The programme cast doubt on the durability of timber-framed housing and the company believes that several participants were unfairly edited.

Barratt is Britain's biggest builder of timber-framed housing and the programme, screened in the summer, caused a collapse in its share price, with £60m being wiped off the company's value at one point.

Sir Lawrie Barratt, the chairman, chose the occasion of the company's annual shareholders' meeting in London yesterday to accuse the programme of "grossly misrepresenting the company and others".

He said that since the programme was screened the National House-Building Council and the Building Research Establishment had published reports clearing timber-framed housing of the charges.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Some sparkle at Johnson Matthey

It is a favourable reflection on the state of Johnson Matthey's balance sheet that the precious metal refiner and banker has been able to absorb the very serious American jewelry setback. The process has been assisted by some fortuitous accounting whcih be revaluing properties by £30m has more or less restored shareholders' funds. Nevertheless, the companys bankers should not be losing sleep.

In the event, the American losses partly caused by unexpectedly low demand for jewelry, are likely to be nearer the bottom end of the £35m to £50m range revealed by Johnson Matthey last month. After savage cutbacks, including the resignation yesterday of Mr J H Lutley, president of the North American division, the American jewelry operation is virtually breaking even, albeit at a *much lower level.* Johnson Matthey is adamant that the other American companies are performing well and that it does not intend to abandon the jewelry business.

But the real problem posed by the American jewelry debacle is paradoxically underlined by the success of the manufacturing parts of the group. Chemicals and refining saved the day by raising their pretax profits from £2.8m in the first half of last year to £10.1m.

The recovery is Detroit, and elsewhere in the vehicle business, has greatly increased the demand for exhaust catalysts. and chemical products have responded to the recovery of industrial output.

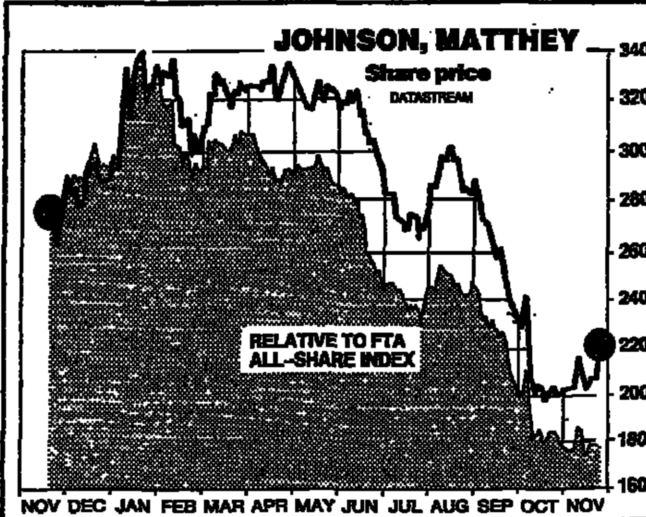
Much the same applies to mechanical production, which covers components for end users such as the rapidly expanding electronics and health care industries, and to colours and transfers. The difficulty in the latter case has been the slow development of consumer demand for ceramics. Mechanical production's profits turned round from a loss of £200,000 to a profit of £1.1m, and colours made £1.6m against a £400,000 loss.

The most important area not to have shown an improvement was banking, dealing and trading where profits slipped fractionally to £13.2m. The catch here was the stubborn refusal of the gold market to respond to ever mounting political tensions when returns on dollar assets were still so attractive. By contrast, platinum trading was brisk.

This improving trend in the company' mainstream activities was becoming evident towards the end of the last financial year. The high interest charge of *£12.5m against £2.9m is mainly* a response to the delays and cost of starting the West Deptford smelter in New Jersey.

But well-placed though Johnson Matthey may be in these businesses, and particularly in precious metal refining, it is still vulnerable to the industrial cycle.

The American jewelry venture was intended to offset that exposure. What will Johnson Matthey do instead?



In the half-year to the end of September, group pretax profits rose from £66.8m to £79.9m after adjusting the comparable result to account for the new practice of using average rather than period-end exchange rates for calculating the results of overseas businesses.

The chief factor was an outstanding performance from Carling O'Keefe, the Canadian brewing offshoot which saw its volume sales soar during the summer.

On top of that, the company had a successful launch with its Highlife beer taking its share of the total Canadian market to something approaching 30 per cent. Canadian results were *further flattered* by the currency's weakness when translated into pounds.

Unfortunately for Rothmans, there is a sizeable minority shareholding in Carling and after this has been stripped out below the lone, group earnings actually fell. They are down from £33m to £30m.

Rothmans International

Brewing in Canada and overseas associates have come to the rescue of Rothmans International during a period when profits from the group's main activity of selling cigarettes in Germany and Britain are in sharp decline.

Moreover, with the contribution of associate companies to pretax profits growing – it was up from £15.2m to £23.1m during the half-year thanks largely to the main Australian associate whose profits were up 36 per cent – the quality of these earnings must be in some doubt.

The main tobacco businesses in Britain and Germany have continued to suffer from a combination of falling volume and fierce price wars.

The interim dividend is up from 1.3p to 2p but the group says it will only maintain the final and the shares, down 5p to 113p yesterday, look unexciting.

Readicut Int

The City has seen many false dawns at Readicut International, the rug kit and specialist textile maker, but this year it should be able to pay something more than the nominal dividend shareholders have put up with for years.

Despite a doubled loss of £1.2m in the handicraft division, which sells kit rugs by mail order, the group result has been turned round by more than £2m from a loss of £1.9m to a profit of £443,000.

Much of the improvement stems from stronger demand for carpets from the car industry *with the* Ford Sierra now in full production and the BL LM10 just round the corner.

The company says results from Regal Rugs were excellent. Profits from carpets increased from £333,000 to £1.1m. The improvement should be maintained, although orders look a little weaker for the second half, particularly on the traditional contract carpet side.

Furnishings and textiles also improved sharply from £371,000 to £1.6m with a particular rise on the fabrics side. However, profits in the carpet and furnishings divisions are barely back to 1981 levels.

Most of the increased loss on the crafts is down to the US, where direct involvement in mail order has since been abandoned and in Germany, where the operation is now being controlled from France.

These two changes, together with the seasonal improvement in demand in the second half should ensure the division breaks even for the period.

Without the hefty rationalization costs which took the attributable loss last year to more than £7m, Readicut should end the year well in the black, but a long way short of 1979's £9.3m. Real recovery awaits 1984-85 at the earliest, but in the meanwhile cash flow is positive and the gearing should fall sharply from last year's uncomfortable level of 70 per cent.

New chief at Flight Refuelling

Flight Refuelling (Holdings): Mr Giles Irwin becomes financial director from December 5.

Continental Illinois Limited: Mr Philippe Truffert has been made a managing director. Mr Peter Anderson II, Mr Eric Darras, Mr Paul Gersh and Mr Edwin Rides have become executive directors.

Telecommunication Engineering and Manufacturing Association: Mr Rhys Williams, managing director of GECOM, has succeeded Mr Des Pitcher, former managing director of Plessey Telecommunications and Office Systems, as president.

Nabisco Brands Foods: The following appointments have been made to the grocery division: Mr E Verschueren becomes managing director; Mr J M Green, director operations; Mr C Curtin, marketing director (biscuit and export; Mr D A Groves, marketing director (cereals); Mr R B Edwards, director (finance and administration); Mr J L Walsh, sales director; Mr J J Lennon, personnel director; Mr G M B Darley, production director (Aintree); Mr J Benton, production director (Welwyn); and Mr A J Hunt, trading director. The following have been appointed to the distribution division: Mr D F Fletcher as managing director; Mr J Gorner, commercial director; Mr M Tong, acting operations director; Mr A Bond, finance director, Mr T Jenkins, MIS, director and Mr L Byrne, personnel director.

Carnation: Mr John East becomes finance and administration director, and Mr Peter Ward, human foods director.

Bell & Hyman: Mrs Mary Butler has been appointed a director.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Dec	858–56
Jan/Apr	840–34
Jan/May	836–31
Apl/Jun	839–37
Jan/Sep	851–50
Oct/Dec	864–63
Jan/Mar	879–78
Apl/June	892–88
June/Sep	908–05
Vol:	625
Tone: Uncertain.	
SUGAR	
Dec	147.00–46.75
Mar	161.40
Byr my	167.00–66.50
Vol:	2667.
COCOA	
Dec	1595–94
Mar	1615–14
May	1613–12
Jly	1616–15
Sep	1619–18
Dec	1627–25
Mar	1632–31
Vol:	6.191
Tone: Weak.	
COFFEE	
Nov	1906–1902
Jan	1915–1912
Mar	1874–1873
May	1800–1798
Jul	1768–1765
Sep	1738–1736
Nov	1713–1710
Vol:	3,218
GAS OIL	
Nov	240.25–40.00
Dec	243.50–43.25
Jan	243.50–43.25
Feb	241.50–41.25
Mar	236.50–36.00
Apr	233.75–33.25
May	233.25–32.75
Jun	232.00–30.00
Jly	236.00–30.00
Vol:1.872	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	964.5–966.5
Three months	987.5–988
T/O	15,200
Firmer.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	951–952
Three months	973.5–974.5
T/O	25
Quiet.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8675–8678
Three months	8806–8807
T/O:	256
Steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8700–8800
Three months	8830–8835
T/O:	cash steadier.
Three months 155 Steady.	
LEAD	
Cash	271.5–272.5
Three months	281.5–282
T/O:	2300
Steadier.	
ZINC	
Cash	575–576
Three months	590–590.5
T/O:	6775
Barely steady.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	584.5–586.5
Three months	598–598.5
T/O:	23
Steady.	
SILVER SMALL	
Three months	597.5–598.5
T/O	nil
Idle.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1022–1023
Three months	1048.5–10,49.5
T/O:	12,375
Firmer.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3085–3095
Three months	3165–3170
T/O:	186
Steadier.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Nov	375.60–376.50
Dec	376.70–376.80
Feb	381.90–382.50
Apl	388.00–388.80
Jun	394.00–395.30
Aug	400.00–402.00

Tone: Quiet. Volume: 375.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Dec	76	4268
Mar'84	2	4304
Jun'84	–	4339
Comment: Weak.		
STERLING		
Dec	54	14693
Mar'84	2	14718
Jun'84	–	14743
Comment: Quiet.		
D-MARK		
Dec	10	3716
Mar'84	10	3750
Jun'84	–	3786
Comment: Dull.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec	1	4610
Mar'84	–	4675
Jun'84	–	4746
Comment: Inactive.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec	871	9032
Mar'84	434	8991
Jun'84	63	9036
Sept'84	13	8932
Dec'84	–	8899
Comment: Quiet.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec	108	9087
Mar'84	651	9058
Jun'84	44	9036
Sept'94	8	9004
Dec'84	–	–
Comment: Weaker.		
GILTS		
Dec	3238	10931
Mar'84	169	10914
Jun'84	–	10905
Sept'94	–	10825
Dec'84	–	10813
Comment: Easier.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 23:
GB: Cattle, 98.69p per kg lw (+1.26).
GB: Sheep, 136.68p per kg est d c w (+4.26).
GB: Pigs, 78.42p per kg lw (+1.30).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 3.6 per cent. ave. price. 98.31p (+1.29).
Sheep nos. up 0.3 per cent. ave. price. 137.34p (+4.81).
Pig nos. down 7.9 per cent. ave. price. 78.42p (+1.30).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 12.8 per cent. ave. price. 100.24p (+0.78).
Sheep nos. up 20.7 per cent. ave. price. 128.64p (+2.21).

London Grain Futures Market

WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
£118.00	117.25
£120.10	119.15
£123.00	122.10
£126.00	124.15
£128.85	–

Total lots traded: Wheat "B": 238 Barley: 91

Commercial Property

Air of optimism in current surveys

The many and diverse surveys *and forecasts which monitor* every move in the property field are all indicating an improvement in the property market. Their authors are all cautious people, not given to excess, so there are no exaggerated claims; but an air of optimism permeates *their pronouncements* for the last month.

The main indicator is the amount of floorspace available, and Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks' office floorspace survey for October shows that market conditions in the West End of London are continuing to improve, with a decrease in available space in both the W1 and SW1 postal districts.

In the W1 area, space now stands at 1,918,000 square feet, the lowest total since the firm began to publish figures for the West End a year ago. During 1983 available floorspace peaked in March at 2,364,000 square feet, since when there has been a steady take-up rate and a fall in the rate of new supply being brought onto the market.

In October, 216,000 square feet was let, sold or placed under offer in 76 units, with a concentration in units below 6,000 square feet. Four units over 12,000 square feet were placed on offer or let, resulting in a monthly total that exceeded the yearly average of 176,000 square feet. At the same time, inly 147,000 square feet came onto the market – the lowest figure for a year.

For the SW1 area, available floorspace decreased by 1 per cent to 1,942,000 square feet, with the number of units also decreasing from 224 to 213. Unlike the W1 market, however, the change was not as a result of take up exceeding newly available space. While 117,000 square feet was brought to the market, only 98,000 square feet was let, sold or placed under offer, and the balance of 40,000 square feet was accounted for by space withdrawn from the market.

Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks found no discernible trend from the figures for the Holborn and City of London areas, but report continued strong demand from banks for buildings in the centre of the City and for buildings of good specifications and design outside the immediate centre.

Figures for the City of London produced in Richard Saunders and Partners' *City Floorspace Survey* show 189,389 square feet let or under offer during yhe month, consistent with the monthly average. Total office accommodation available showed a fall to 3,821,344 square feet, the third month in succession that space has fallen.

By contrast, on the City fringes office accommodation available for letting increased to 5,708,402 square feet, a new high.

Space let or placed under offer totalled 168,080 square feet, again consistent with the monthly average.

Altogether, available floorspace for central London stood at 9,000,000 square feet at the end of October, representing a 2 per cent decrease on the equivalent figure for September. A total of 287,000 square feet was made newly available. 273,000 square feet let, sold or place under offer, and 165,000 square feet withdrawn from the market.

Noticing that property sector shares have recently begun to outperform the All Share Index, Merchant Investors Assurance conclude "1984 could be a turning point for the property market". Wynn Evans, chief surveyor of their Property Fund, points out however, that it would be naive to assume there will be a resurgence across the whole range of property activity.

With the decline of the manufacturing centres in the Midlands and North, particularly in the heavy engineering sector, there are vast areas of vacant industrial and warehouse property which will never be reoccupied, he believes. "New high-technology businesses are rejecting the traditional concepts of the industrial estate and demanding higher quality, more adaptable space in a better environment."

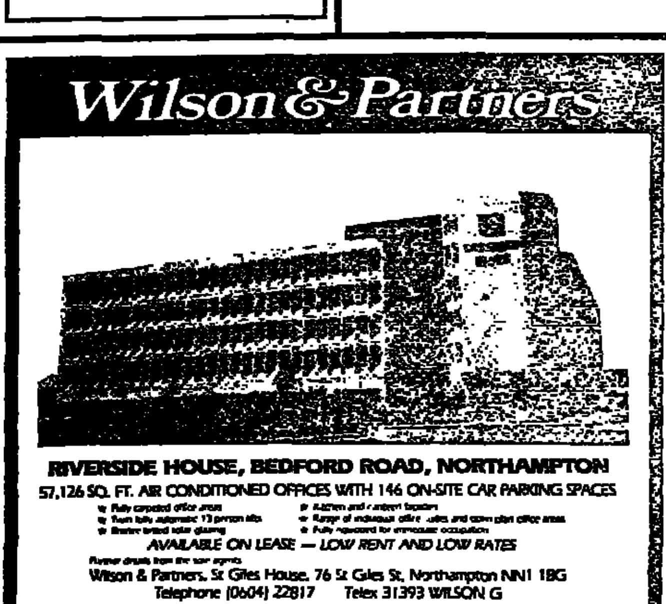
Mr Evans detects changes in office accommodation brought about by the rapid advance of information technology which "calls into question the justification for housing number-crunching clerks in towering city office blocks. The cost of transmitting information to decision makers and traders in the City by a cable link between computers must be less than the personal, social and money expense of shifting commuters to and from their home towns."

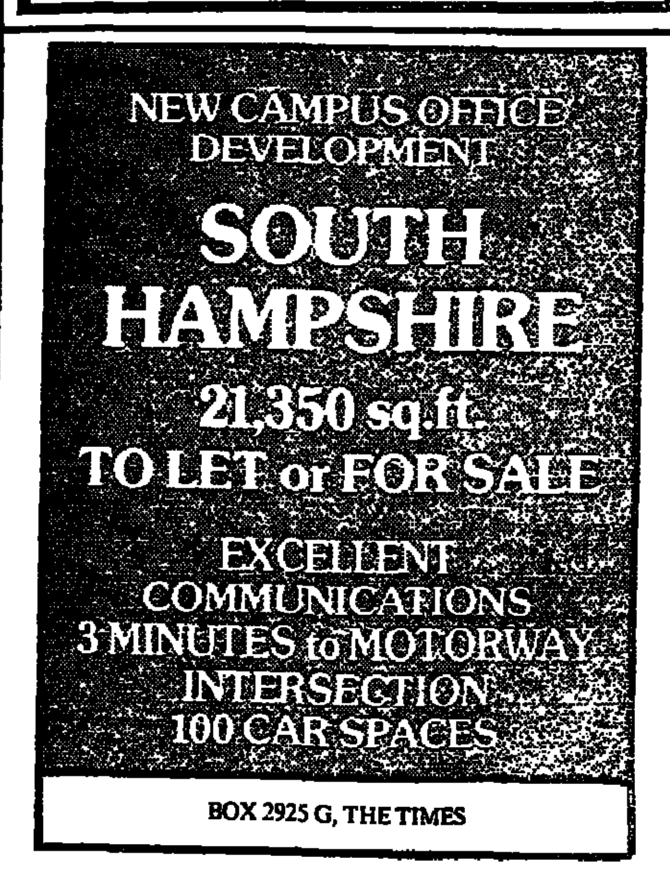
The resulting decentralization means that the search is on for sites in the towns bordering the M25 and other well-located centres.

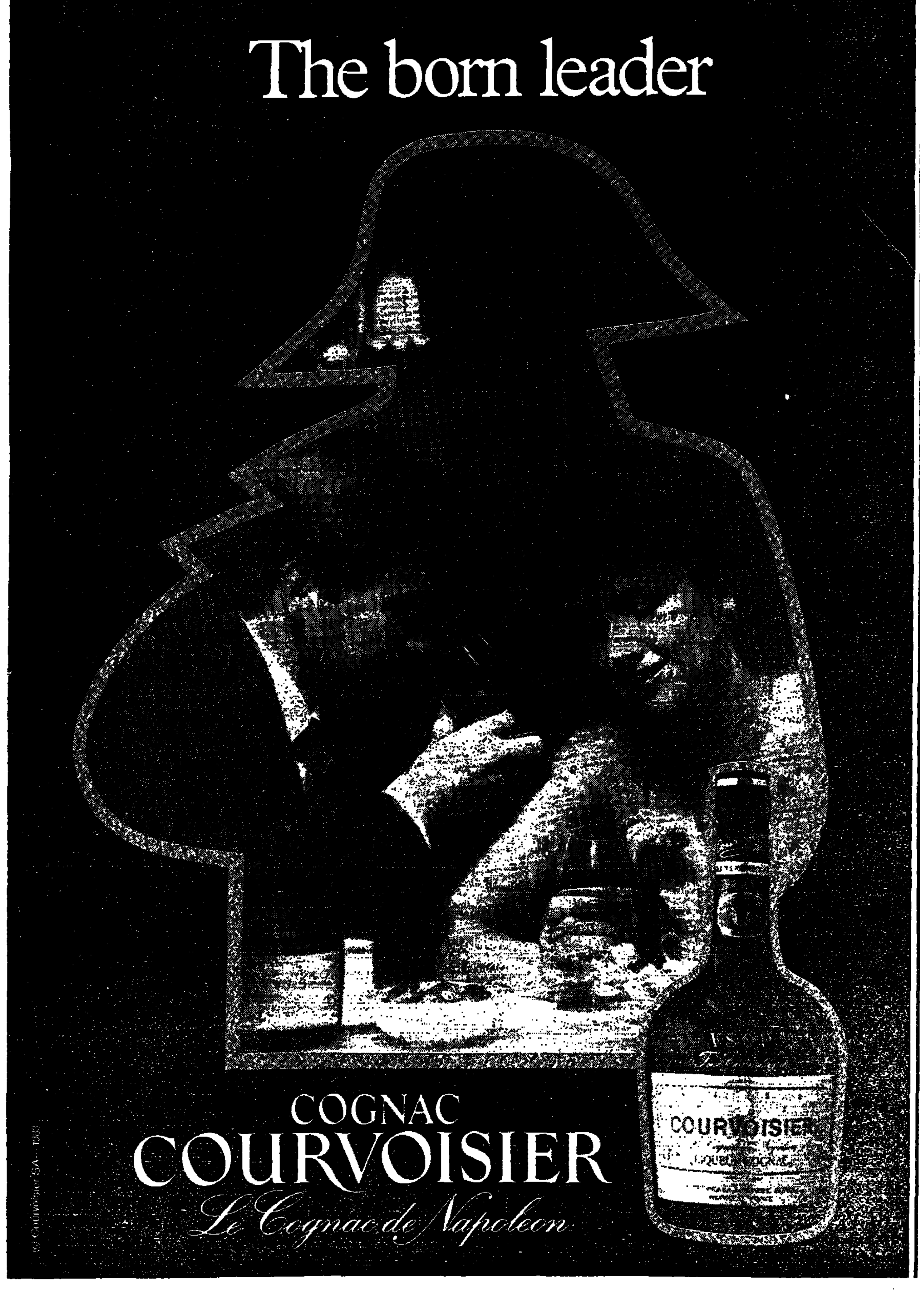
The office sector has been responsible for a slight slowing in commercial rental growth during the last six months, according to the Investors Chronicle Hillier Parker Rent Index No 13, November 1983. It shows that growth was at the rate of 3.5 per cent per annum compared with 3.3 per cent per annum for the previous period.

Shops, where the rate of growth has been steadily increasing since November 1981, again showed the fastest growth with an increase of 5.4 per cent per annum.

Christopher Warman

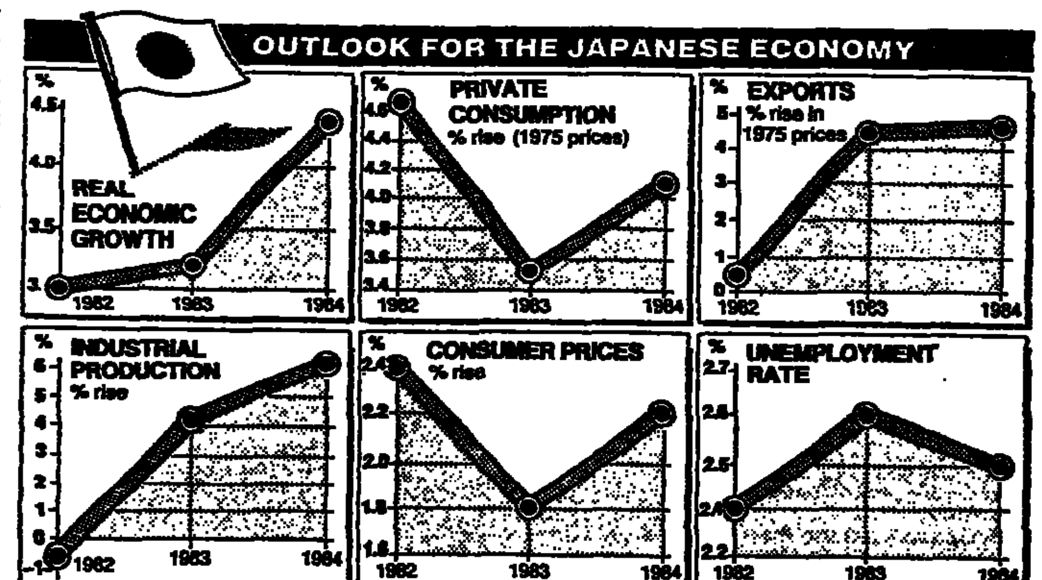






In the first of a two-part series, Richard Hanson looks at the policymakers' dilemmas

Where does Japan's stumbling economic miracle go from here?



Japan's reputation for producing economic miracles has grown noticeably thinner in recent years, despite an envious record on high-technology. This year may be looked back upon as one of the least brilliant in the recent history of Japanese economic management.

Considering its high trend growth rate, Japan has so far shown only modest signs of economic activity picking up, which has helped push Japan's trade relations to a low ebb. Even this gradual recovery seems to be happening for all the wrong reasons.

The good news is that real gross national product growth for the fiscal year ending next March is expected to reach the official target of 3.4 per cent, compared with 3.3 per cent in the previous two years. Most private forecasters see growth in the following fiscal year rising to about 4 per cent or better.

Industrial production is picking up. Inflation has almost disappeared. Wholesale prices have fallen compared with last year and consumer prices are rising by less than 2 per cent. Unemployment, though worryingly high by Japanese standards, has been hovering at about 2.8 per cent of the workforce.

The bad news is that sluggish activity on the domestic front has meant so far that the recovery – which did not begin in earnest until last spring – has been almost entirely dependent on expanding exports and cheaper imports, especially oil, for momentum.

In the January-March quarter this year, the gross national product (gnp) gained 0.2 per cent, but domestic contributions proved a drag on growth, offset only by external demand. More than half of April-June's modest 0.9 per cent growth rate was accounted for by net exports. Public spending contributed little, and private consumption – more than half of gnp – is slow.

From midsummer onwards consumer demand began to pick up slightly but this is probably attributable to hot weather. Genuine revival in consumer spending is not expected until early next summer after Japanese companies begin passing on the results of higher profits, due to exports and savings on the oil bill, to workers.

This is why Japan can now expect a current account surplus of about $25billion (£16billion) this year. It partly explains why Japan's relations with its main trading partners are at a precarious juncture.

Recently announced measures designed to mollify trading partners and stimulate domestic demand – notably tax cuts and a modest boost in public spending – will be slow to work their way into the economy. Politicians have not helped.

Parliament was at a deadlock for more than a month after the October 12 bribery conviction of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, delaying legislaton on economic measures, and forcing the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, into the awkward position of having to call a general election in December.

A prolonged political crisis could threaten growth targets

A prolonged crisis could threaten the country's growth targets. That is what happened when the Lockheed scandal first broke in 1976.

What is also apparent now is that Japan's trading partners have begun to add up how much they are contributing to Japan's recovery. The cost is in the form of ballooning bilateral trade deficits. They are not amused. Both the EEC and the US have brought strong pressure for measures to cut these deficits; liberalize further trade and financial markets and "internationalize" the yen.

Japan's trade surplus in the half year from April-September rose to $18m, compared with $20 billion for the previous twelve months. Encouraged by recovery in the US, exports, led by electronic goods and components, were up 4.5 per cent while imports, mainly oil and raw materials, fell 6.5 per cent. In the same six months, the current account surplus, which includes trade in invisibles, expanded nearly 40 per cent over the previous full-year's total.

What can Japan do about these pressures? It seems very little. Under normal circumstances "fundamentals" such as a growing trade surplus should work in favour of strengthening the yen, hence making Japanese goods less competitive abroad.

This may happen, but Japanese investors lured by higher US interest rates invested $10 billion abroad between April and September. This kept the yen weak against the US currency despite efforts by the authorities to discourage capital outflows. However, the yen now trades at record highs against such European currencies as the Deutschemark.

All sides agree that the yen-dollar problem is central to the strains in economic relations. Correcting this, however, is not easy. During President Reagan's visit to Japan this month, US and Japanese officials seem to have acknowledged that about two-thirds of the responsibility for the problem lies in the US with its high interest rates and huge deficits and the rest in Japan.

To work on Japan's share of the problem, a joint Japan-US committee has been formed. The idea is that opening up Japanese markets and enhancing the use of the yen worldwide will serve to correct imbalances between the yen and the dollar and hence smooth out distortions in trade.

Setting up a committee represents an acceptable diplomatic answer to resolving the currency question. Policy, however, must still be left to the experts in the government, whose options are limited.

Measures announced, or being considered, while Mr Reagan was in Japan will provide no quick answer to either exchange rates or trade tensions. They mainly involve making the Tokyo foreign exchange market more flexible in hedging future contracts, and paving the way for greater two-way access for investors and borrowers (including the possibility of Japan issuing US dollar bonds).

The export-led recovery could peter out before the spring

It is absurd to think that the Japanese government can successfully manipulate the value of its currency higher, a feat which alludes all other western governments. Markets seem to understand this better than politicians. Perhaps the best that can be said at this point is that all the fundamentals point towards a stronger yen next year, which would bring relief.

If the yen remains weak against the dollar, the ability of Japan's economic policy makers to act will stay limited. Heavy fiscal spending in the 1970s has left Japan with a national debt problem which Japanese politicians seem unable to tackle with serious tax and other reform. Instead, Japan is headed for a fourth consecutive year of austere national budgets.

Monetary policy has been hamstrung by the gap between Japanese and overseas interest rates, and what this means for the yen, as part of the government's economic and trade package last month.

The Bank of Japan, in a display of political expediency, cut its discount rate from 5.5 per cent to 5 per cent. This was the first drop since December 1981, but the impact will be largely psychological. It has not helped the yen.

Making matters worse, protectionism, once a looming threat, is already a reality which means some form of control is already imposed on about 40 per cent of Japan's exports to the US.

"The worry facing economic planners is that the export-led recovery could peter out before next spring – either because of a slowdown of US recovery, or because the US and Europe start putting up more barriers against Japanese exports," said one commentator.

The most obvious way to prevent this from happening is to begin reflating domestic demand as soon as possible. Mr Nobumitsu Kagami, an economist with Jardine Fleming, joins others in puzzling over why the government has been mostly complacent about this.

"Although autonomous forces are now in place and we will probably see a period of domestic demand-led growth-... there is a serious danger that the present upturn will be aborted unless the government reverses its highly restrictive fiscal policy stance," he says.

An economist for Marubeni, the large general trading house, adds the cautionary note that even though exports appear to be giving the economy a lift a true export-led recovery has failed to take hold.

Businesses which are exporting are not stepping up investment for new plant and equipment to meet new demand at anywhere near the pace required to stimulate the rest of the economy.

A recent survey by the Japan Development Bank shows that planned capital spending in the manufacturing sector is expected to fall 1.8 per cent this year compared with a 3.8 per cent rise last year.

The inability within the government to get things moving does not bode well.

One Western observer said: "In the longer term, the lack of imagination demonstrated (by government measures) seems likely to confirm the government's growing reputation for excessive caution and lack of vision in economic management."

Tomorrow: the trade circus

Economic notebook

The myth of excess capacity

The miserable existence of 3 million people who want work but can find none makes it hard to make objective judgements about the state of the economic cycle. By any traditional tests, even half that number out of work would mean that industry must be operating far below its capacity.

The registered jobless would have to fall below 500,000 before talk of the economy overheating could attract any credence.

Yet, however much those on the dole represent unused resources for the nation, this is now almost irrelevant to short-term trends in the economy.

If you leave unemployment to one side, it is beginning to look, as Mr Roger Nightingale of Hoare Govett has argued for months, as if parts of the economy are indeed in danger of overheating unless the growth of demand tails off next year.

In some sectors, such as steel, foundries or construction, they are crying out for work. Apparently Draconian industrial rationalization has still not kept pace with the lack of orders.

In many more, if the anecdotal evidence of managing directors is anything to go by, they are operating with no more than the normal margin of spare capacity. In other words, they might squeeze 15 per cent more out of their factories but would rapidly run into increasing costs such as overtime if they tried. This is quite different from operating at 15 per cent below optimum capacity.

Even in some cases where there is apparently huge spare capacity, such as motor vehicle tyres, it is nominal rather than real, because higher productivity has restored the cuts made when physical capacity was axed to bring output in line with the permanently lower needs and potential of Britain's car and lorry factories.

Such plant closures and mothballing of factories have clearly made the greatest impact in cutting our potential to produce. Huge amounts of investment have simply disappeared, although productivity has worked the other way.

This is not simply a rational process of knocking out factories and products that have incontrovertibly become uneconomic. Companies are not so farsighted that they can be sure what is a permanent change and what markets might later recover.

In any case, under strong financial pressure, many soundly managed companies have given closure the benefit of the doubt.

Every week companies large and small record these depradations. Lucas, last week, was fairly typical. Its chairman, Mr Godfrey Messery, recorded that the group had closed no less then 35 British manufacturing and distribution units, almost 2 million square feet of space, since 1980, "because we could see no significant long-term recovery in output" in the key customer industries of cars, commercial vehicles and diesel engines.

The labour shake-out to achieve optimum manning for current output, plus the failure to employ and develop the skills of the new generation of workers has also itself detracted from productive potential. Many firms, not just high-technology firms, now report apparently nonsensical shortages of skilled labour.

The cautious OECD Secretariat suggested these two factors might have cut potential manufacturing output by up to 10 per cent between 1978 and 1982 and the process has continued this year.

Even the latest National Institute Economic Review, while stressing that capital utilization is low, admits that official figures underestimate the amount of capital scrapped. "We cannot therefore rule out the possibility," says the Institute, "that within the next five years output and employment in some sectors will be constrained by a lack of productive capacity".

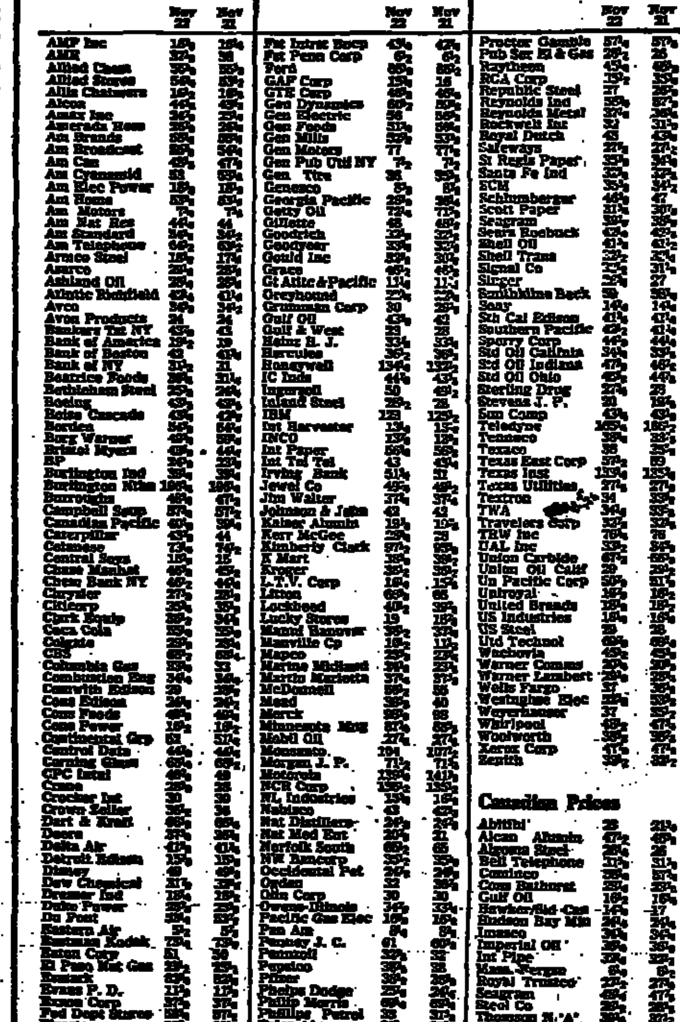
Another factor, hard to measure, is the increased caution of managers in predicting future demand and committing themselves to investment in expansion

The latest report from Britain's footwear manufacturers, for instance, shows orders booming, the highest capacity usage for a decade (following a series of closures last year), overtime doubled in a year and some shortages of skilled labour. Yet there is little desire to expand. An industry spokesman explained that "experience has taught the industry to look ahead with caution and it is not hard to list doubts." Any company that has gone through the trauma and expense of closure and redundancy needs a strong nerve to reverse the process.

This adds weight to the argument that any official intervention in the economy should be geared to switching the pressure of demand from consumption to investment – public or private – where there is still a chronic shortage of work.

Graham Searjeant

WALL STREET



COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Whitbread Investment Company
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £3m (£2.7m)
Net interim dividend 1.94p (1.76p)

International Thomson Organisation
Nine months to 30.9.83
Profit before extraordinary items £60.2m (£44.1m)
Stated earnings 43.2p (31.7p)
Turnover £1142.8m (£1004.3m)

Moorgate Mercantile Holdings
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £320,000 (£230,000)
Turnover £9.5m (£7.8m)
Net interim dividend 0.4p (0.3p)

Bulmer and Lumb (Holdings)
Half-year to 2.10.83
Pretax profit £506,000 (£278,000)
Stated earnings 3.8p (loss 0.87p)
Turnover £16.9m (£14.6m)
Net interim dividend 1.65p (same)

● Kennedy Brookes offshoot Lennoxcourt has been granted three leases on an extra 7,364 square feet of the ground and first floors of the Trocadero development in London's

Exchanging cheques for chips

Ladup Ltd v Siu

Before Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice May

[Judgment delivered November 21]

In dealing with an application to set aside a default judgment, the judge wrongly regarded the explanation for the default, instead of an arguable defence under section 16 of the Gaming Act 1968, as the primary consideration.

The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing an appeal by the defendant, Mr Alwyn Siu, of Colmore Row, Birmingham, against the refusal of Sir Douglas Frank, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, to set aside a judgment for £29,000 in favour of the plaintiffs, Ladup Ltd, who had claimed that sum for dishonoured cheques.

Section 16 of the 1968 Act provides: (1) Subject to the next following subsection, where gaming to which this part of this Act applies takes place on premises in respect of which a licence under this Act is for the time being in force, neither the holder of the licence nor any person acting on his behalf or under any arrangement with him shall make *any loan or otherwise provide or* allow to any person any credit, ... *(a)* for enabling any person to take part in the gaming, ...

"(2) Neither the holder of the licence nor any person acting on his behalf or under any arrangement with him shall accept a cheque and give in exhange for it cash or tokens for enabling any person to take part in the gaming unless the following conditions are fulfilled, that is to say - *(a)* the cheque is not a post-dated cheque, and *(b)* it is exchanged for cash to an amount *equal to the* amount for which it is drawn, or is exchanged for tokens at the same rate as would apply if cash, to the amount for which the cheque is drawn, were given in exchange for them; but, where those conditions are fulfilled, the giving of cash or tokens in exchange for a cheque *shall not be taken to contravene* subsection (1) of this section."

Miss Claudia Ackner for the defendant; Mr Peter Birts for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that by a writ issued in July 1981, the plaintiff company claimed from the defendant a balance of £29,000 as being due in respect of a series of cheques given by the defendant and dishonoured.

The statement of claim pleaded that the cheques had been paid to the plaintiffs in accordance with transactions under section 16 of the 1968 Act, and that the section had *been complied with in* all respects.

At the material times, the plaintiffs were the holders of a licence under the Act in respect of premises in Birmingham, in which premises gaming, to which the Act applied, took place. The defendant was a customer at the premises.

After some difficulty over service, *the writ was eventually served in* January 1982, but the defendant did nothing for a considerable time and the plaintiffs signed judgment in February 1982, for £29,000, with interest to be assessed.

Thereafter, there was correspondence between the parties' solicitors concerning proposals for discharg*ing the* judgment, but in October 1982, the defendant's solicitors took out a summons to set aside the judgment.

Master Waldman set aside the judgment on terms, but the judge on appeal reinstated the judgment. The defendant appealed.

The factual issue, as appeared from the affidavits which had been filed by both parties, was whether the defendant, as he contended, received the chips, which he lost in gaming, before he signed the *cheques to pay* for them. The plaintiffs said the cheques were signed first.

If the defendant was right, the cheques were given in contravention of section *16* and the defendant would have a good defence to the claim.

There was, however, substantial delay by the defendant in dealing with the plaintiff's claim. The explanation for the delay, as the judge found, was wholly unconvincing.

Although it was usual, on an application to set aside a default judgment, not only to show a defence on the merits but also to give an explanation of the default, it was the defence on the merits which was the more important point to consider.

If the plaintiff would not be prejudiced by allowing the defendant to defend the claim, then the action should be allowed to go to trial.

Counsel's note of the judge's judgment said: "Firstly, I do not think the explanation given as to the delay in making the application is reasonable ... Apart from that, I think that there is no defence to this action."

It was clear that the judge did not adopt the right approach to the question, in that he should have dealt with the merits first, and considered also the question of prejudice which, according to the note, was not mentioned by the judge.

His Lordship would allow the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE DUNN, agreeing, said that the word "exchange" in section 16(2) of the Act indicated that the signing of the cheques after *the chips had been handed over* contravened the Act.

There was a triable issue which if decided in the defendant's favour would be a defence to the claim.

The primary consideration was whether there was a defence on the merits and the judge should have considered that question first.

True, a substantial delay had occurred but it was accepted that that had occasioned no prejudice.

The judge's decision was wrong and their Lordships would exercise *their discretion in allowing the* appeal.

Solicitors: Lewis & Dick for Williamson & Soden, Solihull; Mr D. J. Millikin, Willesden.

Mistake renders notice invalid

Dickinson v Boucher

Before Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice O'Connor

[Judgment delivered November 23]

A notice for payment of rent issued to an agricultural tenant by a landlord before the giving of notice to quit was *invalid* where the amount of rent due specified on the notice was incorrectly stated.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the landlord, Mr Reginald Herbert Dickinson, against the decision of Judge Clapham at Sittingbourne County Court on December 16, *1982, who held in answer to a* special case stated by an arbitrator under the Agricultural Holdings Act 1948, that a notice dated January 23, 1981 served by Mr Dickinson on the tenant, Mr Robert William Comyn Boucher did not comply with Case D(a) of section 2(3) of the Agricultural Holdings (Notices to *Quit*) Act 1977.

Mr Michael Segal for the landlord; Mr Geoffrey Jaques for the tenant.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the landlord had served a notice upon the tenant under section (2) of the 1977 Act, requiring the tenant to pay "the rent due in respect of the ... holding as set out below ... *Rent due in arrear to* January 6, 1981 – £650".

That amount was incorrectly stated as the rent payable was in fact £625. The tenant did not in the event pay either sum.

The judge in holding the notice for payment of rent invalid had followed *Pickard v Bishop* ([1976] 31 P & CR 108). *That case established* a strict approach to the form of such notices. They must be accurate and in proper form.

It was argued for the landlord that the statute did not require the amount of rent to be specified in the notice, so that the addition of an incorrect amount to a demand for rent was an embellishment which did not invalidate the notice, and that the tenant, knowing as he did the amount which was in fact due, was not misled: see *Carradine Properties v Aslam* ([1976] 1 WLR 442).

However, where the amount was specified and wrongly stated in the notice, it was difficult to say that the *tenant had failed* to comply with a proper notice under the 1977 Act. That Act required the notice to be in a particular form. The court's approach in *Pickard v Bishop* must be equally applicable to a mis-statement of a requirement with which the tenant was to comply. That decision was binding upon the court.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR concurred, without assenting to the proposition that a notice requiring payment of rent would comply with section 2 of the 1977 Act where it merely demanded the rent due, without specifying the amount.

Solicitors: Attersoll Smith, Reigate; Burges Salmon, & Co, Bristol.

Industrial buildings allowance

Copol Clothing Ltd v Hindmarch (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Lord Justice Dunn, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Fox

[Judgment delivered November 23]

In deciding whether a taxpayer was entitled to claim "industrial building allowance" under section 7(1)(f)(iv) of the Capital Allowances Act 1968 in respect of a building *used for the storage of "goods or* materials on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom" consideration had to be given to the reason for storage. Subparagraph (iv) dealt with goods in transit; goods which had not reached their ultimate destination and were stored meanwhile.

It was not the purpose of the statute to give the allowance merely in respect of a building which was used to store manufactured goods which had been purchased from outside the United Kingdom and delivered to the purchaser.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer company, Copol Clothing Ltd, clothing wholesalers and distributors, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Nourse on February 19, 1982 (*The Times*, February 26, 1982) of the company's appeal from a decision of the General Commissioners for central Manchester who refused their claim for *industrial buildings allowance in* respect of part of warehouse premises at Sagar Street, Manchester which were let to a wholly owned subsidiary on a 21-year lease.

The company claimed to be entitled to the allowance pursuant to the 1968 Act, section 7(1) of which provides: "Subject to the provisions of this section, in this chapter 'industrial building or structure' means a building or structure in use ... (f) for the purposes of a trade which consists in the storage ... (iv) of goods or materials on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom."

Miss Fay Stockton for the taxpayer company; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE FOX, delivering the judgment of the court, said *that in February 1978 the taxpayer* company, which had for some years carried on business as clothing wholesalers and distributors, formed a wholly owned subsidiary company called "Wholesalers" the principal activity of which was the warehousing and storage of goods.

The company purchased a *building in Manchester. They used* the ground floor for their trade. The first floor was a warehouse which was leased to Wholesalers on a 21-year lease, and was used by them for their warehousing and storage business.

About 90 per cent of the company's purchases were im*ported. Most of the purchases came* by sea, the greater part being landed at Southampton, but some were landed at other ports. A small proportion of goods came by air but those deliveries were so limited as to be of no consequence. The goods which came by sea were transported to the warehouse in sealed *containers.*

Those which were landed at Southampton travelled by rail to a container base at Urmston near Manchester and went from there by road to the warehouse. The containers landed at other places were sent by road to the warehouse.

His Lordship said that the matter turned upon the provisions of section 7 of the Capital Allowances Act 1968. The industrial buildings allowance would be available if the warehouse was an *"industrial building or structure"* within section 7(1) of the Act.

The company claimed that the *present case fell within section* 7(1)(f)(iv). The General Commissioners, without giving reasons, decided that the warehouse was not within the section. Mr Justice Nourse upheld that decision.

On appeal Miss Stockton had said that the word "on" in section 7(1)(f)(iv) could not mean immediately upon arrival inside the United Kingdom and ought to be construed in the broad sense of "on the occasion of". She also said that the words *"arrival" and "into any part* of the United Kingdom" were wide enough to cover delivery to Manchester which was the place to which the goods were consigned in the United Kingdom and which was their true place of arrival: that storage on arrival in any part of the United Kingdom must at any rate cover the first place of storage in the United Kingdom.

Mr Carnwath, had said that if the goods were brought from abroad by sea to, say, Southampton, storage of those goods at Manchester could not possibly, according to the ordinary use of English, be described as storage of those goods "on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom"; that normally paragraph (f)(iv) would in relation to a port extend only to premises within the recognized dock *area of the port.*

The latter proposition was, in his Lordship's view, altogether too narrow. "On" could not in the present context mean "immediately". The Crown's own formulation was inconsistent with such a view since the "recognized dock area" might cover a quite wide *radius from the point* where the goods were landed.

Accordingly, storage of goods at some distance from the point of landing must have been contemplated by Parliament as within the statute. The question was how great a distance? The test of "the first place of storage" was not satisfac*tory. On the other hand,* his Lordship could see no reason to limit the ambit of paragraph (f)(iv) to the "recognized dock area".

There was no sensible purpose in denying the allowance to a warehouse seven miles outside Southampton which provided storage for goods landed at the port while granting it to a warehouse within the dock area; the former might serve the needs of the port as well as the latter.

Further, there might well be cases where a warehouse was situated at a point some considerable distance from the coast but where it could conveniently serve a number of *ports. Thus, premises near Norwich* might provide a satisfactory warehousing service for a number of East Anglian ports.

The purpose of the allowance, it seemed to his Lordship, was to encourage the establishment of storage facilities in places where they could provide a storage service in support of ports or airports or both.

But some force must be given to the words "on arrival". It seemed to his Lordship that there must be imported a requirement that the warehouse could, having regard to its location, be reasonably regarded *in the normal course of its trade as* providing a storage service, in relation to a particular port or ports (or airport or airports) in the United Kingdom, for goods or materials on the occasion of their arrival by sea or air into such port or airport.

On that test, warehouses at Norwich or a few miles outside Southampton were likely to be within the Act. On the other hand it might be that facilities some hundreds of miles from the port of *entry could not be regarded* as storage of goods "on their arrival into the United Kingdom", but individual cases might involve investigation of the nature of the goods and the availability of other storage facilities in the United Kingdom.

But there was another consider*ation which seemed to his Lordship* to dispose of the present case. It was necessary to consider the reason for storage. The words "goods or materials on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom" left on him the impression that sub-paragraph (iv) was dealing with goods in transit; goods which had reached the United Kingdom but not their ultimate destination and were stored meanwhile.

In the present case, the goods, when they reached the warehouse in Manchester, were not in transit at all. They had reached the consignee (the company) who were in fact the purchasers.

It was not the purpose of the statute to give the allowance merely in respect of a building which was used to store manufactured goods which had been purchased from outside the United Kingdom and delivered to the purchaser. The allowance under sub-paragraph (iv) *was given* to encourage the provision of storage for goods which had just arrived in the United Kingdom and before their onward transit.

The storage in the present case was not that at all – it was merely the storage that any wholesaler wanted for his goods. That was a far cry from the storage of goods "on their arrival by sea or air into the United Kingdom". The storage, at that point, really bore no relation to the arrival by sea or air into the United Kingdom. It was merely storage by an owner of goods until he disposed of them.

In his Lordship's opinion the warehouse was not within the status and he would dismiss the appeal, with costs. Leave to appeal refused.

Solicitors: Gaunt Brook & Co, Manchester; Treasury Solicitor.

Equitable relief in contract

***Sport International Bussum* BV and Others v Inter-Footwear Ltd**

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Oliver

[Judgment delivered November 17]

The equitable jurisdiction to grant relief against forfeiture did not extend to contracts unless they involved the transfer or creation of proprietory or possessory rights, and then only in appropriate and limited cases where a forfeiture provision had been inserted in the contract to secure a stated result, for example, the prompt payment of money, *which could effectively be attained* before the court.

Commercial contracts where both certainty and the avoidance of delay were of great importance were not within that class, and in any event it was doubtful whether such relief could be granted where specific performance would not be available *to the party seeking the relief if to* grant it would be tantamount to granting specific performance.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the defendant, Inter-Footwear Ltd, from an order of Mr Justice Staughton in the Commercial Court on October 12 who had granted the first plaintiff, Sport International Bussum BV, leave to enter judgment against the defendant and who declared that licences to use certain names and trade marks *which the first plaintiff had granted* to the defendant had determined.

Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC and Mr Jonathan Turner for the defendant; Mr Colin Ross-Munro, QC and Mr Michael Burton for the first plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER, delivering the judgment of the court, said *that the first plaintiff* had granted the defendant the licences in consideration for the defendant paying it £105,000 in three instalments and furnishing two guarantees to secure the payment of the instalments.

The second guarantee was to be furnished immediately upon pay*ment of the second instalment. It* was a term of the agreement that if the defendant failed to pay any instalment or to furnish either guarantee, the full unpaid balance would become immediately payable and the licences would forthwith determine.

The second guarantee was not *issued until a fortnight after the* payment of the second instalment, and the first plaintiff applied for judgment for the outstanding sum, claiming that the licences had determined.

Contrary to the defendant's contentions, "immediately upon payment" contemplated a minimal *or a very short time lapse* and accordingly it could not be said that the guarantee had been given immediately upon payment. It was, in his Lordship's judgment, beyond doubt that time was intended to be of the essence of the contract and therefore unless the court had jurisdiction to grant relief against *forfeiture, the appeal would fail.*

Shiloh Spinners Ltd v Harding ([1973] AC 691) established that such relief could be granted only in appropriate and limited cases and that one essential hall-mark of the limited cases was that the forfeiture clause had been inserted for the purpose of securing a stated result which could be fully attained before the court.

A further *limitation* upon the jurisdiction was to be derived from the decision in *Scandinavian Trading Tanker Co. A.B. v Flota Petrolera Ecuatoriana* ([1983] 3 WLR 203), namely, that it did not extend to contracts which did not involve the creation or transfer of proprietory or possessory rights.

It did not follow from those decisions that such relief was available in all cases where those two conditions were fulfilled. There were sound policy reasons for granting relief in cases concerning land which did not apply to commercial leases and analogous *contracts such as this.*

The extension of the jurisdiction to a commercial contract should be considered on its merits but with considerable caution.

Parties contracting at arm's length should be taken to be able to look after their own interests, and it was particularly necessary in trade mark cases that there should be certainty and no delay, as a licensee would need to know at once whether a licence had been determined

In the court's judgment, the judge had been right to hold that this was not one of the limited class of cases where he had jurisdiction to grant relief against forfeiture.

It was doubtful in any event whether the primary purpose of the forfeiture clause in this case had been to secure the furnishing of guarantees and payment of instalments. It was equally consistent with a desire in the plaintiffs to be able, upon the defendant's default, to enter judgment immediately and sever all further relations.

There was probably another reason why such relief could not be granted in this type of case. The rights of the parties rested solely in contract – no legal estate had been granted to the defendant – and relief could only be granted by effectively requiring the plaintiffs specifically *to perform the contract. Although in* this case the contract was capable of being the subject of a decree of specific performance, the defendant had himself been in default and thus could not aver that he had at all times been ready willing and able to perform his part of the contract.

Analogy with the position *regarding relief against forfeiture of* contracts for leases of land did not help, as a beneficiary of such a contract was treated as a lessee by virtue of section 146(5) of the Law of Property Act 1925.

The court had considerable doubt whether, outside the sphere of landlord and tenant, relief could be *granted where the forfeited interest* depended upon contract only and where relief effectively involved specifically performing the contract.

Solicitors: *Lovell, White & King;* Baker & McKenzie.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

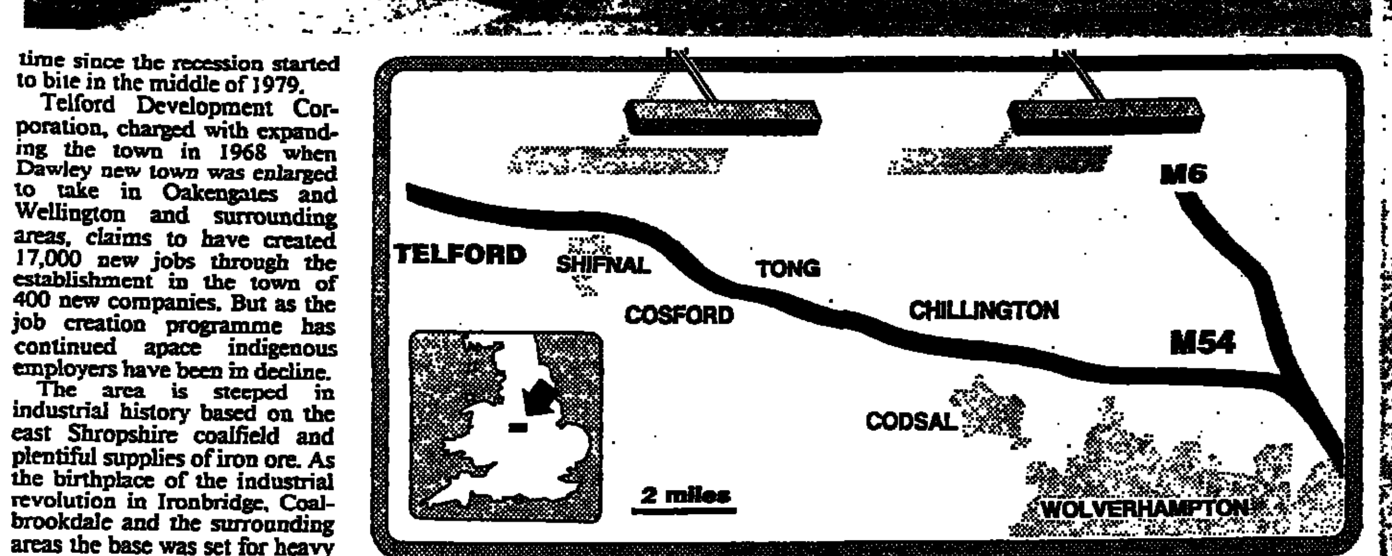
1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

Based on an industrial heritage stretching back more than 200 years, this Shropshire town moves into a new era tomorrow with the opening of the M54 motorway. **David Felton** explains the importance of a fast, easy route to the west Midlands.

Telford A SPECIAL REPORT

Pictures by John Reardon



One man with a broom puts the finishing touches to the M54, 17 miles of four-lane carriageway named after engineer Thomas Telford which opens tomorrow and links the new town bearing his name with the country's motorway network. Right: casting a line in the river Severn in the shadow of Ironbridge, Telford's major landmark.

A 17-mile stretch of motorway running through the Shropshire and Staffordshire countryside is to be opened tomorrow and on it hangs the future success of the new town of Telford which has suffered severe growing pains over the last 20 years.

The M54 Telford motorway links the east Shropshire new town with the M6 and so brings Birmingham and the West Midlands conurbation much closer. Telford will also have a 270-acre enterprise zone from January and a dual pronged attack is now to be launched on the 21 per cent unemployment rate which is the highest in the west Midlands.

For a town which started out as Dawley new town in 1963 and painted a picture of a brave new world for the Birmingham and Wolverhampton overspill population, it was designed to accommodate, Telford has been hard hit by the recession and so has been unable to meet completely the challenge it was set. Industry has been reluctant to move to the town while the area's traditional manufacturing base has been steadily reduced.

The motorway and the enterprise zone are the results of years of pressure from the town's developers who now have to prove that they can be effective tools in the search to bring new industry, and desperately needed jobs, to the town. That drive for new industry is gathering pace with several large companies, mainly overseas-based, announcing big investments in Telford and there is a real possibility that next year the number of jobs created will exceed job losses for the first time since the recession started to bite in the middle of 1979.

Telford Development Corporation, charged with expanding the town in 1968 when Dawley new town was enlarged to take in Oakengates and Wellington and surrounding areas, claims to have created 17,000 new jobs through the establishment in the town of 400 new companies. But as the job creation programme has continued apace indigenous employers have been in decline.

The area is steeped in industrial history based on the east Shropshire coalfield and plentiful supplies of iron ore. As the birthplace of the industrial revolution in Ironbridge, Coalbrookdale and the surrounding areas the base was set for heavy engineering, or "metal bashing" in the words of one development corporation official, and that has continued up to the present day.

Job losses could be a thing of the past

But the ability of local companies like GKN Sankey, Glynwed Foundries and Ever Ready to withstand the recession was weak and since 1971 employment in indigenous industries has fallen from 17,500 to a little over 10,000.

Development corporation officials are hoping that net job losses for the town are a thing of the past and are eager to capitalize on the motorway and enterprize zone. Lord Northfield, chairman of the development corporation, says: "We have established the framework of a modern industrial city based upon the new technologies, the microchip, robotics and automation, upon which the whole future of our country depends. It is no idle boast when I tell the world that Telford is truly the growth point of modern industry in the west Midlands."

A main plank of the town's industrial strategy has been to take Telford's name to multinationals based overseas and that strategy appears to be paying off with two major Japanese investments in Telford announced recently. Maxell, a subsidiary of Hitachi will next year open a plant in the town manufacturing video cassette tapes and Ricoh, the world's biggest producer of photocopiers, is to build a manufacturing plant in the enterprise zone.

But while there is universal acclaim for the motorway, many in the town are bitter that it has taken so long to be built. One industrialist said that it was 15 years too late for Telford, while Mr Mike Osborne, deputy general manager of the development corporation, said: "If we'd had the motorway earlier we should have had a lot less unemployment. We would have attracted bigger industries here at an earlier date which would have negated to an extent the horrifying job losses we had in the 1970s and early 1980s."

Changed national economic circumstances led to a downward revision of the town's original population target of 220,000 set in 1968 and now the aim is to increase from the present 107,000 to around 130,000 by about 1990.

The direction the town was to take was also changed as it no longer was to be an overspill area for Birmingham but rather an attempt to instil new economic life into the decaying area of the old East Shropshire coalfield and become the economic growth point of the west Midlands.

A serious problem for the engineers building the town has been the vast number of disused mine shafts that litter the area and which have to be made safe before the land can be used, and at the last count 1,421 shafts had been capped. The town has its local critics who claim that development has destroyed communities that existed prior to designation, but the planners reject the argument and point to the impact they have had on the environment through land reclamation.

As the latest annual report sent by the development corporation to the Government states: "The transformation of the abandoned east Shropshire coalfield into beautiful and valuable, Shropshire countryside is a factor which plays no small part in attracting investment in housing, commerce and industry to the new town."

The report goes on to paint a bleak picture of the short-term future for Telford's unemployed. "Not only has unemployment remained tragically high, but the figure, though stable, has masked real growth in youth unemployment and in long term unemployment. With the most optimistic forecasts showing only a slow decrease in unemployment the problems and consequences of unemployment are likely to be with us for years to come," it says.

A promising sign is the growing trend of "trading up" to bigger premises of companies that were established first in small factory units, but the corporation is critical of the reluctance of the private sector to finance industrial development. "While there has been considerable success in selling to owner-occupiers the institutional investors demand investment criteria that are frequently incompatible with the flexibility that a new town development corporation needs in managing its estates with employment growth as the main objective," the annual report says.

It will be the development corporation's ability to overcome all the problems facing the town which will make or break Telford but with the advent of the M54 and the enterprise zone prospects look brighter.

On other pages

The £62m motorway link with a man called Telford

Thomas Telford, one of the leading road and bridge engineers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries built numerous roads in his time, but not many could have been as important as the M54 which opens tomorrow and links the new town bearing his name with the country's motorway network.

The Telford motorway, 17 miles of four lane carriageway costing £62m, provides a direct link with the M6 and the West Midlands along a fast road instead of the narrow A5 trunk road and brings the centre of Birmingham to within 30 minutes' driving time of the centre of Telford.

The motorway had almost become a test of virility for Telford because after many delays caused by objections from the environmentalists' lobby it began to appear that the whole future of the town hung in getting the motorway built. The kind of companies Telford was trying to attract were reluctant to bring their investment, and jobs, to the town when the link with the M6 was the tortuously-slow A5.

First approval was given for the M54 by the Government in 1973 when the plan was for a six lane road costing £1m a mile. Over the period of three public inquiries, called after strong objections from landowners along the route in Shropshire and Staffordshire and environmentalists who argued it would cause irreparable damage to unspoilt countryside, the cost escalated and the road was reduced in size.

The wrangling finally came to an end just over two years ago and in the intervening period the motorway has been in four sections, and when Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, performs the opening ceremony tomorrow, the town of Telford will heave a collective sigh of relief.

Lord Northfield, chairman of Telford Development Corporation, says the M54 has been talked about for so long that people think it is going to produce miracles overnight. "By itself it will do no such thing, but together with several other factors, it will enhance the image of Telford which is increasingly bringing us to the notice of industry and commere worldwide.

"Undoubtedly the M54 will make a profound difference to us, on industry, commerce, tourism, house building and leisure. I see the M54 as the starting point for a new boom period, bringing jobs more quickly as more industrialists are encouraged to set up in the town and more people wanting to come and live in this delightful, dynamic environment," Lord Northfield said.

Several concessions have been made to the environmentalists in the form of changed plans, notably with the reduction of six lanes to four and through lowering the road so that it is hidden from view. Nesting boxes for swifts have been constructed under some of the bridges in order that breeding patterns are not disturbed, and half a million cubic metres of colliery waste has been removed from the Hilton Main colliery near the M6 to provide screening mounds.

The motorway was built through five contracts, with the four sections being constructed simultaneously and the fifth contract covering the Forge Junction interchange which links the motorway to the town's main shopping centre and business park. The approach to Telford is marked by a tri-hedral spire standing 70 feet above one of the main roundabout junctions for the industrial areas. The structure, constructed from three pre-cast concrete triangular units, so finished in skye marble and white cement to give it a brilliant white appearance.

The 17 miles of motorway stretches from its junction with the M6 at Essington just south of the Hilton Park service area to the town centre where it will link with the already open section of urban motorway which goes through the northern part of the town before linking with the A5 trunk road near the landmark Wrekin mountain on the western edge of Telford. In addition to boosting business traffic with Telford the new motorway will be a big time saver for holidaymakers travelling to mid and north Wales.

Telford's attention will now switch to attempts to improve rail links with the rest of the country. The four direct inter city links between Telford and London each day are to be supplemented by a fifth train next year but town developers are trying to persuade British Rail to seek government approval for electrification of track between Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton.

BR is under pressure to take a quick decision because the present diesel rolling stock is rapidly reaching the end of its useful life. The development corporation is also having discussions with BR on proposed new railway station to serve the town centre which is expected to cost around £1m.

ENTERPRIZE ZONE

The rush by new firms eager to move in

The industrial map of Telford is likely to start changing dramatically over the next year or so following the town's designation by the Government as an enterprize zone. The announcement of its new status, with the attendant incentives industry, which has co-incided with completion of the M54 link, has provided a strong fillip to the town's confidence.

Already the first 22 acres of the 270 acre enterprize zone has been allocated to the Japanese copier manufacturer Ricoh which plans to make the town its European manufacturing base and will employ 110 people when it starts operations next January. Mike Morgan, manager of the zone and commercial director of Telford Development Corporation says that designations has led to a rash of inquiries from companies eager to move to the east Shropshire new town.

Previously Telford has had to compete for new industrial development with areas that have either been given special financial assistance by the Government or were able to boast better road communications, Now Telford has the dual advantage of the enterprize zone and the motorway link with the M6 to use against its opponents in the search for new industry.

Formal designation of the enterprize zone takes place in January, but already the industrial salesmen from Telford are touring overseas pushing the extra advantages of moving to the town now, and so continuing the strategy of seeking investment and jobs from big companies in the new high technology industries.

The enterprize zone is divided into five areas. The first zone is in the new town centre adjoining the indoor shopping centre and is close to the main interchange for the M54. The idea is to create a business park on this site, adjacent to several existing office development, with encouragement being given to further office development and incorporating a five to six acre site for a hotel. Mr Morgan expects the hotel development to materialize "sooner rather than later".

The second zone is close to the motorway on the other side of the town centre and is expected to have a mixed use for offices, warehousing, light industry with the 11 acre section of the area nearest the motorway providing a site for a single occupier.

Area number three in the zone is the 22 acre "campus site" again alongside the motorway which had been taken by Rioch. It overlooks a lake and has a substantial amount of land surrounding it to provide a good environment with the possibility of more land for expansion being available.

The fourth zone is almost all of the undeveloped land in the Stafford Park industrial area which is on the eastern fringe of the town. Again there is the prospect of a plot, this time of about 30 acres, fronting the motorway for a single company to develop with the rest of the zone providing sites down to two acres for companies proposing buildings in excess of 40,000 sq. ft. The fifth zone, also close to the motorway, forms part of an existing industrial complex and is aimed at the smaller development with divisions of up to one acre sites and small workshop units.

The town's planners have allocated uses with the aim of creating a mix that will be attractive to prospective occupants who can expect to enjoy the normal benefits of an enterprize zone, chiefly exemption from rates on industrial and commercial properties and 100 per cent allowances for corporation and income tax purposes for capital expenditure on industrial and commercial buildings.

The other main advantage, which along with all the other benefits applies for the 10 year life of the zone, is that the bureacracy and regulations attached to the developments are greatly reduced. No planning permission is required, providing the use falls within the general use designated for the area, and building regulations are greatly simplified.

Initially, the town was designed to take overspill from Birmingham so the "fishing ground" for new industry was centred mainly in the west Midlands, but with the recession and the change of direction taken by the town the net was widened, and the development corporation went in search of overseas investments. Regular promotional visits are made by senior officials to Europe, Japan and the United States and the number of foreign controlled companies investing in Telford has now risen to around 40 providing more than 2,000 jobs.

The last two major investments announced by the corporation, Hitachi Maxell and Ricoh, have both been Japanese but the town's salesmen are sensitive to the charge that they are neglecting British industry in their search for jobs. They point out that the majority of new factories in the town are British owned and controlled.

Ricoh is the world's largest manufacturer of photocopiers, employing 17,500 people. It will initially manufacture in Telford photo conductors and dry toner for its copiers but the company hopes to be able to manufacture other office equipment if new markets appear and it may also use Telford for research and development. The factory, on about 45 acres, is now being built and Hiroshi Hamada, president of the Ricoh company, said that Telford was chosen because it "is in the heart of industrial England and offers excellent communications. It is also in a delightful environment."

That last comment is not lost on the development corporation which uses the other attractions of the enterprise zone, such as its closeness to the modern town centre, town park and the landscaped environment, as part of the "bait" to industrialists.

TELFORD STATISTICS

	December 1968	March 1983	Change during 1982/83
POPULATION (Estimated total in Designated Area)	74,750	106,600	+2,100
EMPLOYMENT: (Jobs-Industrial and Commercial)			
On land made available by the Corporation	496	7,470	+970
Elsewhere	35,175	31,200	-1,800
Total	35,671	38,670	-830
EMPLOYMENT (firms on land made available by the Corporation)			
In private factories	–	55	-1
In Corporation-built factories	–	382	+29
Total	–	437	+28

Money man: coin sorting at Chapman Cash Processing

THE FIRMS

Saving the man hours

SMC Packaging is typical of the small, almost one-man operation started in Telford a few years ago that is now expanding and looking to the opening of the M54 to give its business an extra impetus.

Brian Seymour, who set up the company which sells food packaging and handling equipment, estimates that replacement of the A5 by the motorway will mean a saving of between 45 minutes and an hour each day for each of his drivers. That works out to a saving of at least a man day each week, which to a company like SMC is a considerable improvement in productivity.

SMC produces and markets equipment for abattoirs, butchers and supermarkets, much of it designed by Mr Seymour whose original company, Seymour Packing, was taken over two years ago. Following the takeover, Mr Seymour set up SMC in Shifnal near by with two other people and now employs 20 with the company's £1.7m turnover set to double in the next year.

A central feature of the company's operation is its new butcher's table called the Multe Bloc, which although simple in design is described as revolutionary because it can be turned upside down. Conventional butchers' blocs can only be used on one side, the top, and then have to be discarded.

The company sells in several European countries and the Middle East and is at the moment negotiating with manufacturers in the United States for SMC products to be manufactured under licence. Mr Seymour is already looking around the vacant industrial units for a new location for expansion. "It's not a question of if we are going to expand, but when", he said.

His aim is to build up a complete packaging system for the food industry and in doing so he insists that wherever possible all materials and components must be British made. He claims that 98 per cent of all his materials are produced in this country and as an extension of his patriotic fervour he insists that his staff dress in the colours of the Union Jack.

Mr Seymour's four mile move from Shifnal to his 13,000 sq ft unit on the Stafford Park industrial estate was eased, he said, by the development corporation allowing him temporary rent concessions as he is building up the business.

"The whole environment, grass verges, landscaping are designed to improve the business climate and in this area it has been very successful. It is an area that's getting a bit of pride vow and the M54 is going to make a big difference to the success of the town", Mr Seymour said.

Tractor man: shifting tractor cabs at GKN Sankey

Hitachi, the big name catch

The drive to attract investment from foreign multinationals received a significant boost this year when Hitachi Maxell decided to build its European production headquarters in Telford which will employ upwards of 200 people.

The big name "catch" of Hitachi, which was prepared to spend £20m on its factory on the Apley Castle industrial estate in the north of the town, was seen as vindication of many hours of lobbying Japanese companies and sales visits to that country.

Maxell will be only the second manufacturer of video tapes based in Britain when it starts production early next year, just nine months after the first works were started on the 50 acre site. The 110,000 sq. ft. building will occupy only part of the site and the company has taken a larger area because it hopes to expand production, possibly with new products.

The building will cost under £4m and the bulk of the investment will go into high technology manufacturing equipment. The company has started hiring some of the initial 170-strong workforce which will in the first year produce nine million cassettes and it plans to increase production to at least twelve million a year.

Maxell is headed by nine Japanese and the rest of the workforce will be hired locally including senior engineers who are being sent to Japan for training on the company's latest automated production machinery. "We have found no problem at all in hiring people with the right engineering background in Telford," said Ken Kakurai, managing director of Maxell (UK).

The UK arm was set up in Harrow, Middlesex, three years ago when the company decided it would build a European manufacturing plant, but has operated only as a sales organization for imported Maxell tapes. The decision to build in Telford was announced to coincide with a visit to Japan last January by Patrick Jenkin, the then Secretary of State for Industry.

Mr Kakurai said the company had visited several countries, including West Germany, Belgium and Holland before choosing Britain. Maxell executives toured prospective sites in Northern Ireland, South Wales and the north east, all of which were able to offer invesment incentives while at that time Telford had no special financial assistance to use as a bait.

"We came here secretly several times before we finally approached the development corporation," said Mr Kakurai, "and we decided to select this place because even without grants it is worthwhile." He listed the town's attractions, including the new motorway link, a high quality indigenous workforce and the willingness of the development corporation to smoothe out initial difficulties.

The corporation is hoping that the Japanese presence in the town will increase and Maxell will be the first manufacturing company to bring to east Shropshire, Japanese methods of management which, according to Mr Kakurai, lay great emphasis on the company's relationship with the community. Telford workers will also be introduced to Maxell's "one class" factory where everyone from the managing director down wears the same overalls and all eat in the same canteen.

A start from scrap

From a scrap reclamation operation to a distribution centre for high precision microscopes and opthalmic equipment – that is the transition a small factory unit on Telford's Halesfield industrial estate underwent earlier this year.

When the scrap company moved out, leaving behind an inevitably dirty 8,500 square feet of factory, re-design work started on the building, which is typical of the off-the-peg units that Telford Development Corportion builds for rent. The result was a warehousing complex with plush demonstration area for the instrument division of the Japanese Nikon Company.

The instrument division was set up in April after the demise of the Scottish-based Projectina Company which had handled sales of Nikon microscopes and opthalmic equipment since 1965. The owner of the company retired and the resulting company is staffed by former Projectina personnel.

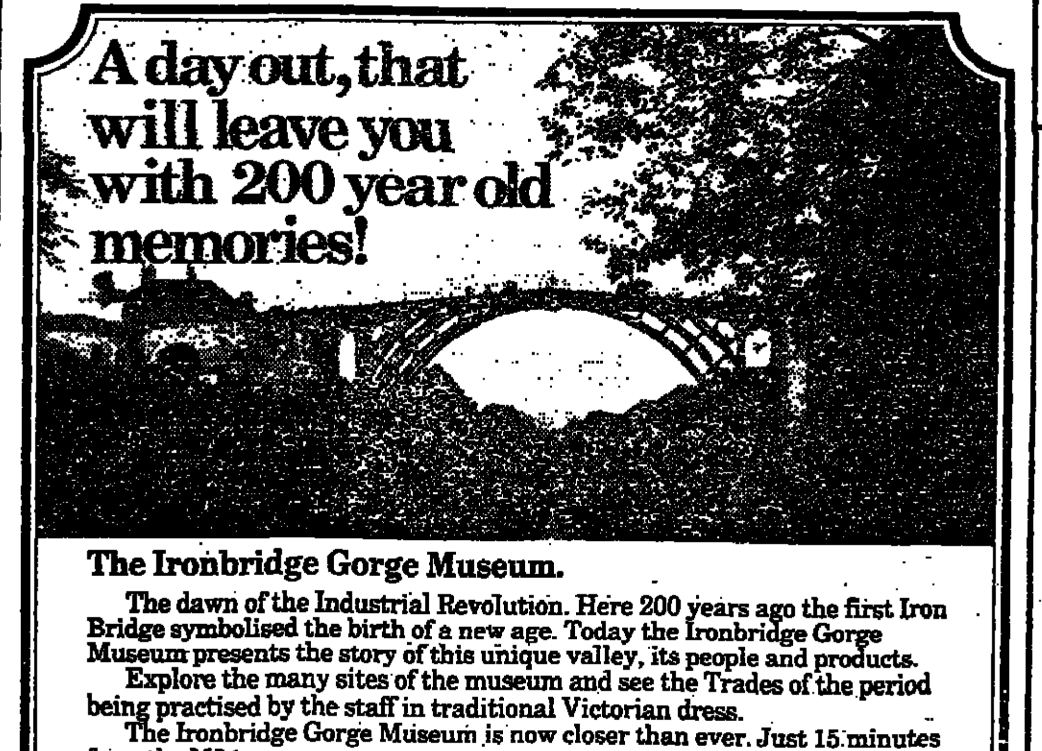
David Lewis, the division's general manager who was responsible for finding a site for the new distribution operation, said: "I went to about 40 sites before we decided to come to Telford. One of the main reasons for chosing Telford was the help given to us by the development corporation. They made me feel as if I was wanted, as if I was important."

Much of the groundwork for Nikon's final decision to set up in Telford was laid during a Telford promotional visit to Tokyo when development corporation officials met senior Nikon executives who had not heard of the town before their visit. The Telford unit is the base for a team of 11 Nikon salesmen who are on the road selling instruments to hospitals, schools, universities and the micro-electronics industry.

Leader in an £8m market

Mr Lewis said he hopes the present £1.5m annual turnover will increase to £2m which would make the company leader in the relatively small £8m a year market for microscopic instruments. Nikon is also marketing computer-controlled equipment for opticians to use in testing eyesight which should cut the length fo a visit to the optician down to a matter of minutes.

The company hopes that with the advantage of the improvement in road links it will show a 30 per cent increase in sales in its first year in Telford.



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Breathing life back into the industrial revolution

Preserving the past at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum: Top: dressed for the part for pot-making and the old butcher's shop. Left: industrial architecture of a century ago

Mile after mile of a long lost age

While Telford's industrial salesmen travel the world in search of new industrial development for the town, the Ironbridge Gorge museum trust is engaged in bringing back life to industrial devolopments made more than 200 years ago.

The museum, which covers more than nine square miles of the southern part of the town along the banks of the river Severn, has become world renowned for its approach to "living history" as it slowly clears away the debris of a more than a century of neglect from important relics of the industrial revolution.

Ironbridge, and the adjacent small town of Coalbrookdale, was the home of the Darby family who set Britain on the move away from being a basically agricultural economy to world leadership as an industrial nation.

The centrepiece of the museum is the iron bridge itself, a magnificent cast iron structure built in 1779 by Abraham Darby III, which was made possible because of the new technique developed by his grandfather, the first Abraham Darby, who seven years earlier discovered a way of smelting iron using coke rather than the ever-diminishing suppliers of charcoal.

Furnaces at Coalbrookdale in which Darby perfected that technique have been restored to their original state and form part of a museum of iron which charts the development of iron founding in the wake of Darby's revolutionary discovery. A long list of industrial "first" followed that innovation including the manufacture of the first iron railway wheels, cylinders for Newcomen steam engines, the world's first iron boat and, of course, the ribs for the world's first iron bridge.

A series of diverse industries began to spring up along the banks of the Severn, where it threads its way through the steep-sided Ironbridge Gorge, including boat building, rope making, and china and tile industries.

A description in 1837 of the area at the height of its influence by local author Charles Hulbert gives an insight into the level of industrial activity. "From Coalport to the Iron Bridge, two miles the river passes through the most extraordinary district in the world. The banks on each side are elevated to the height of from three to 400 feet, studded with iron works, brickworks, boat building establishments, retail stores, inns and houses, perhaps 150 vessels on the river, actively employed or waiting for cargoes; while hundreds of busy mortals are assiduously engaged, melting with the heat of the roaring furnace; and though enveloped in thickest smoke and incessant dust are cheerful and happy", he wrote.

With the Iron Bridge as the focal point, the Ironbridge Gorge museum trust, set out to bring the surrounding area back as near as possible to its original form and the process of recreating working examples of the 1830s industry is to continue for at least the next decade. Recognition of the trust's contribution to protecting the country's industrial heritage came in 1977 when it was named Museum of the Year and in 1978 with the Council of Europe's first European Museum of the Year award.

The trust has raised about £2.5m from voluntary contributions and grants to finance its work, but total investment in the museum from all sources including the Telford Development Corporation, local authorities and the Government, runs into tens of millions of pounds. The most important, and also costly, civil engineering project undertaken by the museum was the urgent work needed to prevent the iron bridge slowly slipping down the banks of the Severn.

A concrete beam costing £150,000 was placed along the river bed, to strengthen the abutments and prevent almost certain collapse of the bridge.

The museum has also been responsible for rescuing numerous other industrial monuments and bringing them to the Blists Hill open air museum, where, on 47 acres perched high on the side of the gorge, a working industrial community is being recreated.

Future developments will now be concentrated on an ambitious project to build an iron works at Blists Hill that is capable of manufacturing wrought iron goods which the trust believes it can sell commercially for specialist products. It hopes to be in production within three years and a large number of trainees from the Government's youth training scheme are employed on the project.

A third project for the future is the restoration of two houses in Coalbrookdale which were homes of the Darby family.

All of the administration and restoration work at the Ironbridge Gorge museum is carried out by the museum trust while the capital is raised by the Ironbridge Gorge Development Trust. The work of the development trust is aimed more now at seeking grants from private industry toward the cost of specific project.

A further problem faces the Ironbridge Gorge, a problem which has been brought about by the success of the area as a tourist attraction. Pressure is growing for a by-pass to be built. Lord Northfield, chairman of the development corporation, says in the corporation's recently completed annual report: "The development of Ironbridge as a major tourist attraction, the home of one of the world's most important museums, has led to increasing traffic problems. The future of Ironbridge as a resort as well as the comfort and safety of its residents and visitors now require nothing less than the earliest possible completion of the by-pass."

Success beckons in a glass house

British Brown-Boveri decided to make a clean break with London which had been its headquarters for 76 years when it last year moved into a prestige office block overlooking the new town centre, a building which had for some time been seen by locals as Telford's "white elephant".

The empty Darby House, with its imposing all-glass cladding, seemed to represent Telford's inability to attract companies to the town, but Brown-Boveri's decision to locate its headquarters in the building soon led to other companies moving into the building which will be the centre-piece of the Telford Business Park.

British Brown-Boveri, the UK offshoot of Swiss-based BBC Brown, Boveri and Co, has been involved in Telford since 1976 when it became the first major power engineering company to establish manufacturing operations in the town. That unit was closed by BBC in 1982 when a wholesale restructuring of the company's operations led to the headquarters move to Telford.

The manufacturing section was taken over by some ex-BBC employees, re-named Centre Switchgear and now works almost exclusively for BBC. About 90 people are employed in the head office, with 75 per cent recruited locally and in addition to being the administrative and financial headquarters Telford is also the home of the power engineering division.

The parent company is one of Europe's largest power engineering groups employing 94,000 people in five countries and with a turnover last year of £2,860m.

Control panels for the Thames barrier, control systems and switchgear equipment for the Dinorwic hydro power station in north Wales, engineering work on the country's largest electric iron melting plant for Ford at Leamington Spa and control systems for conveyor routes in the new Selby coalfield, are some of the projects that have been engineered in Telford.

The company's move into the first office development in the town centre was a morale-booster for the development corporation and the company in turn has a prominent building overlooking the M54 and business park.

Three men on the course: golfers beside new housing at Sutton Hill, Telford

The town with a touch of Dallas

Telford has always placed great emphasis on major improvements to the environment linked to providing a wide spread of leisure activities as a necessary adjunct to its house building and industrializaion programmes and that policy is now beginning to bear fruit as several new leisure developments are either open or close to opening.

The town centre can now boast a championship-sized tennis centre, an ice rink due to open next autumn and a "disco-pub", all of which are designed to bring life to a new shopping centre after nightfall. The importance attached to leisure by both Telford Development Corporation and the local authority, Wrekin district council, is all the more relevant because of the 21 per cent unemployment rate with youngsters suffering the worst.

In the southern part of the town overlooking the Ironbridge Gorge is a £2m hotel and leisure complex linked to the Great Hay golf course. The Telford hotel, golf and country club provides conference facilities, badminton and squash courts and a swimming pool.

There are four major leisure centres around the new town, most linked to schools but open to the public but the main focus is increasingly likely to be on the town centre. The tennis centre run by a local business an has been designated the West Midlands Tennis Centre by the Lawn Tennis Association which means that national championships can be held there.

The building, which houses eight international standard tennis courts and 10 badminton courts was built by the development corporation and leased back to Mr Peter Lloyd who operates it. On the other hand the ice skating rink will be the development corporation's first venture into a commercial leisure operation.

When completed the rink will be handed over to the Wrekin council for management and it has been designed so that it can be used for large scale entertainments as well as skating. The hope is that the tennis centre and rink will attract people not only from within Telford and as Lord Northfield, chairman of the development corporation puts it, will become a "magnet to people from miles around through its proximity to the motorway in the heart of the town."

But the leisure facilities are just part of the services the development corporation has provided since its inception in 1968. Its proudest achievement is the shopping centre which with almost 700,000 square feet under cover, is one of the biggest shopping malls in Britain.

With a section cladded in mirrored glass, matching the facade of the nearby Darby House office block, the town centre takes on a futuristic "Dallas" look. It has its own bus station and is only a few minutes' walk from the 400 acre town park

There is free car parking for 3,500 cars and while it provides the centrepiece to the town, the development corporation has made improvements to the shopping areas of the old towns of Wellington, Dawley, Oakengates, Madeley and Ironbridge which now act as satellites to the town centre.

It is a disappointment to all the authorities in Telford that they have been unable to persuade a cinema chain to move into the town. Despite a population of 107,000 there is insufficient interest, according to the cinema operators, and the town's only cinema which had been open for several decades closed earlier this year.

A campaign being waged is for a start to be made on the planned new Telford hospital, which is designed to have 350 beds, four operating theatres, accident unit, X-ray department, and other specialized departments. Building work was due to start this year with completion in 1986 and an opening the following year, but the project has become bogged down in a wrangle over cash.

The Government has agreed to provide the £27m capital cost but the local health authority says that it is not sure it can meet the £9m annual running costs. Pressure is mounting for a quick start on the hospital because it will provide much needed jobs in its construction and is also expected to employ 1,000 permanent staff.

DEVELOPMENT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOUSING under construction:	March 1982	March 1983
Corporation for rent	95	38
District Council for rent	73	89
Housing assns on land made available by the Corporation	–	–
Housing associations elsewhere	18	80
Private housing on land made available by the Corporation	292	377
Private housing elsewhere	63	92
Total	541	676
INDUSTRY FLOORSPACE under construction(m^2)		
On land made available by the Corporation	5,427	29,499
Elsewhere	585	–
Total in designated area	6,012	29,499
SHOPPING FLOORSPACE under construction(m^2)		
On Land made available by the Corporation	–	1,858
Elsewhere	–	–
Total in designated area	–	1,858
OFFICE FLOORSPACE under construction(m^2)		
On land made available by the Corporation	–	1,955
Elsewhere	6,000	–
Total in designated area	6,000	1,955

One man and his shop: Keith Stewart, director of Carrefour, Telford's largest store

Chapman's way with money

Chapman Cash Processing has expanded at a remarkable rate since it started business less than three years ago in a small factory on Telford's Stafford Park industrial area. It is success that according to its founder, Colin Chapman, is based entirely on innovation and putting into practice new ideas for handling cash.

In 1980 Mr Chapman started the business with 14 people. He now employs 76 and profits are expected to increase fivefold from last year's £64,000 to £300,000. As an indication of confidence in the company's future £1m is being raised from financial institutions in a private floating of shares to help finance more research and development.

A former Royal Navy officer who served on the first Polaris submarine, Mr Chapman brought to his own business experience in working for one of the biggest cash handling companies in the country. He used that experience, recruited a team of young graduates and set out to put together cash handling systems that not only counted and packaged money but through computer links provided managements with additional information.

An example of such a system is the package Mr Chapman designed for British Telecom which was trying to reduce losses from its public telephone kiosks. Following the introduction of the system in London there has been an increase of 20 per cent in BT's income.

By providing the BT worker who is emptying the telephone boxes with a simple information card to fill in, information on location of the box, the amount of cash collected and the general state of the box and faults can be fed into BT's computers.

Chapman machinery, all designed and built at Telford, is now being used in a wide range of banks, stores and security companies. A new development the company is now producing is a coin validator that can learn to recognise coins of any size or origin. This piece of equipment is incorporated in coin counters, which can count segregate and sack up to 550 coins a minute.

About a quarter of the young Chapman workforce are shareholders in the company which Mr Chapman believes has led to a spirit within the company of working together as a team. His design team is responsible for spending the 42 per cent of the budget that goes on research and development.

The first Chapman machine was sold to one of the major clearing banks in 1980 and the company is confident of winning a contract to instal a cash processing system in all the outlets of one of the big chain stores after an initial experiment in 50 stores.

FOOTBALL: OLSEN DECIDES TO JOIN MANCHESTER UNITED NEXT SEASON

Atkinson goes to Amsterdam and captures the most wanted player

Ron Atkinson's enterprise and powers of persuasion have finally succeeded in making football's most wanted player, the Dane Jesper Olsen, a Manchester United player. The United manager spent two days in Amsterdam convincing Olsen that his future lay at Old Trafford, despite a better offer from Tottenham.

The personal touch must have made its mark on the 22-year-old international and Atkinson was able to end the speculation when he announced that Olsen had agreed to join the FA Cup holders. The deal will cost United £700,000 – £500,000 to Olsen's Dutch club, Ajax, and £200,000 to the player to sign a three year contract.

The man who aroused the attention of leading clubs with a brilliant individual goal for Denmark against England in the European Championship match in Copenhagen last year is under contract to Ajax until the end of July. But Atkinson expects Olsen to be established at Old Trafford by the beginning of next season.

Atkinson said "Olsen has told me he has made up his mind to join us. I feel certain there will be no snags, but experience teaches you that nothing is certain until pen is put to paper. If he wanted to make a lot of money, he would have gone elsewhere beause other clubs made him much bigger cash inducements."

In addition to the Spurs financial bait, Fiorentina dangled a mighty cash incentive for Olsen to continue his career in the Italian League.

Atkinson added "I see him as a very versatile player who can operate in many positions . . . he has lots of flair and is very quick. The fee by today's standards, is not exorbitant." United's need for that type of player was heightened last month by the premature retirement of the England winger, Steve Coppell, with persistent knee trouble.

"Olsen said "the decision was a difficult one, but I have always followed United and I think they are the greatest club in England. I like the way they play and they have tremendous support. All the stories have heard about United have been good and I'm looking forward to playing with their many famous players. I have met and played against Bryan Robson in England matches but apart from him. Uited have a lot of other good players as well."

AMSTERDAM, – Ajax said yesterday that they had no information from Jesper Olsen on his reported transfer deal with Manchester United (Reuter reports) An Ajax official said Olsen had promised to reply this week to the club's offer for a new contract which would have kept him in Amsterdam for another two or three years.

"Olsen has not told us his decision yet so we don't know if he is staying with us or leaving." the official said. Another Ajax official said he thought it "almost certain" that Olsen would remain with the club. The Danish winger had often said he would have liked to stay with Ajax for another couple of years

Olsen: Undaunted by Simonsen experience.

Keeping fingers crossed at Derby

Derby County yesterday were still hoping to receive assistance from the county council and city council within the next 48 hours to help them in their financial crisis. Stuart Webb, a club director and chief executive said "We are still optimistic, but something may come out of these negotiations. The club will survive, but we do need help."

Webb said that with a "united" board and gates of between 15,000 and 16,000, the club had got the ingredients for survival. "This gives us the confidence that we still have a chance to keep the club alive. I am optimistic that the councils will help because Derby are part of the social fabric of the county."

It is understood that Derby are seeking £10,000 guarantee from the city council and a £300,000 guarantee from the county council.

The policy committee of the county council did not even discuss the question at their meeting on Tuesday. David Bookbinder, leader of the council, explained that they could not help the club because government penalties would treble the cost of any cash committed by them.

● Kevan Broadhurst, the Birmingham City captain and midfield player, has suffered another setback in his recovery from an ankle injury received six weeks ago.

Door opened for Moseley

Graham Moseley, who played in goal for Brighton in the FA Cup final last season, has been granted a free transfer. Moseley, aged 29, who appeared in both final and replay against Manchester United, has played 160 first team games since signing from Derby six years ago.

But he has played only one senior game this term, and his chances of a permanent recall have been minimized by the signing of the former Manchester City and England goalkeeper, Joe Corrigan.

Yesterday's results

UEFA CUP: Third round, first leg: Radnicki Nis 0, Hajduk Split 2.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers 2, Charlton 0; Leicester 0, Chelsea 1; Millwall 0, Queen's Park Rangers 2.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Peterborough 2, Bournemouth 3.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 20, Mickey Steele-Bodger's XV 38; postponed: Gloucester v Exeter University.
SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Edinburgh 36, Heriot Watt 15; Glasgow 4, Strathclyde 30; Aberdeen 33, Stirling 6; Dundee 15, St Andrews 9.
SCHOOLS MATCH: St David's, Llandudno 44, Eirias HS 10.

HOCKEY

LONDON LEAGUE: Slough 2, Oxford University 1.

Tottenham hit by late goal from Bayern

Archibald: missed chance

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Munich

Bayern Munich 1
Tottenham Hotspur 0

On a freezing night in the Olympic stadium here, Tottenham Hotspur lost their UEFA cup third round first leg tie when Michael Rummenigga scored with six minutes left.

The Scots from Aberdeen had exposed the flaws in Hamburg's defence the previous evening and there were notable similarities several hundred miles to the south in West Germany. Within half a dozen minutes, Hoddle, with a customarily effortless flick, showed the fallibility of Bayern, fellow joint leaders in the Bundesliga by putting Archibald in alone against the goalkeeper.

Archibald was to be shown another opening by Augenthaler, as nonchalant a sweeper as Hieronymus has been for Hamburg. But Archibald, whose aim has recently been so deadly, stabbed his first effort into the side-netting and allowed Pfaff to throw a protective blanket over his second.

With the temperature sinking to 10 degrees below zero and with a thin layer of snow covering the athletics track encircling the pitch, Tottenham were in ned of some early comfort. Instead they left themselves open to the runs of the Rummenigge brothers, expecially Karl-Heinz, the elder and more famous of the two.

After 20 minutes Augenthaler invited him to visit the by-line. Roberts accompanied him but was left behind by his subsequent sharp turn and Pflugler, standing unguarded on the edge of the area, was given a clear sight of the target. He missed by a wide margin.

Durnberger, by launching another lengthy pass, kept matters in the family but Michael Rummenigge, after rounding Clemence, shot tamely against the legs of Thomas. After the same limbs had deflected Lerby's free-kick dangerously close to Tottenham's goal, it became clear that Bayern were beginning to establish an authority

Yet on the hour three unsavoury challenges brought to the tie the same hint of unpleasantness that had crept into the game to the north. The first involved Stevens and Michael Rummenigge and in spite of Bayern's vehement appeal, the Dutch referee rejected their claims

After Archibald had clashed with Augenthaler, Bayern would surely have gained one had Del'Haye, a substitute for the injured Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, chosen not to resist Clemence's wild assault.

Tottemham's defence cleared the immediate danger that was increasing inexorably but Clemence did not escape. He was booked and so later was Thomas for fouling Pflugler.

BAYERN MUNICH: J-M Pfaff; W Dremmler, B Durnberger, B Beierlorzer, K Augenthaler, S Lerby, H Pflugler, W Kraus, D Honess, M Rummenigge, K-H Rummenigge.
TOTTENHAM HOTSPURS: R Clemence; C Hughton, D Thomas, G Roberts, G Stevens, S Perryman, M Hazard, S Archibald, M Falco, G Hoddle, A Dick.
Referee: J Keizer (Netherlands).

IN BRIEF

Howarth the new captain at The Oval

Geoff Howarth, who led the New Zealanders on their tour of England last summer, is taking over the captaincy of Surrey next season. This will enable Roger Knight, captain since he rejoined the county from Sussex in 1978, to concentrate more on his duties at Cranleigh School, where he has taken on the added responsibilities of housemaster.

In making the announcement, Surrey said that they had decided it was time to make a change. Knight has agreed to accept their decision and wuld continue playing for a further season during which he has a benefit.

Surrey have had their moments of success under Knight, notably in winning the Natwest trophy in 1982, but they had a poor season in 1983.

● Sylvester Clarke, the Barbados and Surrey fast bowler, will be paid £175 for every wicket he takes for Transvaal in the South African inter-provincial competition during the next three season, according to a sponsorship deal he signed yesterday.

Clarke is now playing in South Africa with Lawrence Rowe's "rebel" West Indian XI and will rejoin the Transvaal side in February when the tour ends. He has already taken 20 wickets in six matches for Transvaal, worth £3,400.

More cricket, page 27

Hockey: The holders, Whitchurch, will be at home to Bridgend in the second round of the Welsh Cup on December 4. Penarth, last year's beaten finalists who are currently languishing at the foot of the Premier Division of the South Wales League, face a difficult game trip to Abergavenny while Cardiff are at home to the giant-killers, Chepstow, who beat Llansihen in the first round.

The two leading clubs in the North Wales League, Monsanto and Pilkington are drawn together.

Draw for the second round on December 4 is: Monsanto v Pilkigton; Wrexham v RAF Valley; Northop Hall or University College, Bangor v Newtown; Whitchurch v Bridgend; University College Swansea v Llandaff City; Abergavenny v Penarth; Swansea v Polytechnic of Wales; Cardiff v Chepstow.

REAL TENNIS

50th win in a row for Ronaldson

By William Stephens

Christopher Ronaldson, the 33-year-old world champion, recorded his fiftieth consecutive victory in championship singles matches since January, 1981, when he defeated Kevin Sheldon, the professional at Leamington, 6-5, 6-5, 6-5 in the quarter-final of the British Open singles championship, sponsored by George Wimpey, at Queen's Club yesterday.

Both players, being tall, and able to move behind cross court shots to return the ball down the line under the winnin gallery in order to deceive an opponent waiting by the tambour, the match was an exhibition of craft and guile.

Ronaldson, professional at Hampton Court, is expert at winning in tight corners, and his coolness when Sheldon was 5-4 up in both second and third sets (with two set points in the third) was remarkable; he was consistently accurate in his attacks on the grille.

Sheldon lost the match, by removing his racquet at the last minute from a ball he judged would not bounce into the dedans.

Colin Lumley, former professional in Melbourne, and playing the British championships to raise the level of his game, eliminated Mick Dean, 6-1, 6-4, 6-1.

Yesterday, tennis elbow forced him to play a soft game, which caused his opponent to overhit in the second set but then Lumley began once again to lean on the ball and dispatch it with severity.

Lachlan Deuchar, the second seed, fell victim to his old enemy of weakness in concentration and made six service faults in eight attempts at the boomerang serve, while John Ward tied him down with precise floor play in the third set, but Deuchar steadied himself to win 6-1, 6-0, 3-6, 6-4.

BRITISH OPEN: Singles: Second round: J Ward bt M Gradon 6-4, 5-6, 6-1, 6-2. Quarter-final: C Ronaldson (Hampton Court) bt K Sheldon (Leamington) 6-5, 6-5, 6-5; C Lumley (Holyport) bt M Dean 6-1, 6-4, 6-1; D Johnson (Queens) bt N Cripps (Eton) 6-4, 6-1, 4-6, 5-6, 6-2; L Deuchar (Hampton Court) bt J Ward 6-1, 6-0, 3-6, 6-4.

Pay up and play the game

The Minister for sport, Neil MacFarlane, made it clear yesterday that the Government has no intention of taking sport out of the taxation system. In a s peech to the annual conference of the Central Council of Physical Recreation in Bournemouth, Mr MacFarlane said that such a move "would be to invite other similar claims, notably from the arts and from branches of industry.

"Some parts of the sporting world are very wealthy – not just the professional sectors. We must also look on the other side of the balance sheet. Sport benefits substantially from the public funds arising out of taxation. The spending by local authorities, the Sports Council and other public departments and agencies is very high.

Mr MacFarlane also outlined the Government's three-point plan for achieving the maximum use of existing sports facilities. He hopes that industry, schools and other bodies such as hospitals and the civil service will open up their facilities more.

Charlton supporters plan own company

Charlton Athletic supporters club have plans to form their own company and invest in the football club.

Their chairman, Jack Lindsell, told a meeting of supporters last night: "In the event of the club being saved there is possibility that we will form a company and issue shares at £10 each in an effort to raise up to £100,000 to enable us to buy an equity interest in the club."

It was also announced that the recent drive for new members was an "enormous success". In the past 16 days it has risen from 259 to 830 and the total funds now stand at £5,329, the best for five years.

Committee chairman Clive Franklin appealed to both parties in Charlton's long drawn-out financial wrangle to make the ground and club available "at reasonable prices".

"Anyone buying the club should pay only a shilling if he is also expected to take on the debts," said Franklin. "Just as Michael Gliksten should sell the ground at a reasonable price so should Mark Hulyer and Richard Collins make the club available at a sensible price, even if it does mean sacrifices by both parties".

Looking to the future Franklin said: "When this ghastly nightmare is over we look forward to the club being in safe hands, run by top class businessmen with plenty of money, plenty of go and plenty of know how".

Graham Turner, the Shrewsbury manager, whose team face Charlton at Gay Meadow, on Saturday, has refused to support a move to have the Londoners' new forward, Ronnie Moore, banned until his former club, Rotherham, are given a down payment on the £35,000 fee.

Rotherham have called on second division clubs to protest to the Football League about Charlton including Moore in their team, pointing out that transfer fees should be paid or adequately secured before a transfer can be registered. But Turner has no objections to Moore playing in Saturday's match.

"It is none of our business, but a matter for the Football League to sort out between the clubs concerned," he said.

Liverpool defied by Fulham

Liverpool, the holders of the Milk Cup, still cannot shake off the second division side, Fulham. They must return to Craven Cottage next Tuesday for a second replay of their third round tie, after a reckless Dalglish back pass cost them victory at Anfield on Tuesday night.

Dalglish had given Liverpool the lead, but with four minutes to go, his carelessness prompted Grobbelaar to bring down Davies and Lock scored from the spot. Fulham held on in extra time and won the toss for the replay venue. "They deserved to win the toss because of the way they played," said the Liverpool manager, Joe Fagan.

The winners will meet Birmingham City or Notts County, who also drew their replay and play again in St Andrews on Tuesday, when supporters will hope for something better than Tuesday night's drab goalless game.

Bertschin earned Norwich a visit to their neighbours, Ipswich by scoring twice at Sunderland. He struck after 28 and 65 minutes, with West pulling a goal back

Stoke's sound defence again served them well at Huddersfield, where goals from Bould and Maguire clinched a home match against unbeaten Sheffield Wednesday.

In the FA Cup, Northwich Victoria had two men sent off as they lost 1-0 at Bangor in a first round replay. Bennett and Forshaw were dismissed and Urquhart's penalty gave Bangor a home match against Blackpool. Bishop, the son-in-law of Jimmy Greaves, scored as Chelmsford won 2-1 at Wycombe Wanderers and qualified to visit Gillingham.

Results and scorers from Tuesday

European Super Cup
First leg

HAMBURG (0) 0 ABERDEEN (0) 0
12,000

Milk Cup
Third round replays

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 STOKE CITY (1) 2
14,191 — Bould, Maguire
Winners at home to Sheffield Wednesday

LIVERPOOL (0) 1 FULHAM (0) 1
Dalglish — Lock pen
15,783
(aet; score after 90 mins – winners away to Birmingham or Notts County)

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0 BIRMINGHAM (0) 0
(aet; winners home to Fulham or Liverpool)

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 NORWICH (1) 2
West — Bertschin (2)
14,149
(Winners away to Ipswich)

FA Cup
First Round replays

BANGOR (0) 1 NORTHWICH (0) 0
Urquhart pen
Winners at home to Blackpool

BOLTON W (1) 4 TRANMERE R (1) 1
Chandler 2, 1 pen; Rudge, Caldwell — Williams
6,305
(aet: score after 90 mins 1-1; winners at home to Mansfield)

BRENTFORD (1) 2 DAGENHAM (0) 1
Mahoney, G Roberts — Rhoden
3,936
Winners at home to Wimbledon

BRISTOL R (2) 3 BARNET (0) 1
Holloway, Barrett, Slater — Evans
5,338
Winners at home to Corinthian-Casuals or Bristol City

ENFIELD (0) 2 WEALDSTONE (1) 2
Holmes 2 — Byatt pen, Graves
1,286
(aet; score after 90 mins 2-2; winners away to Colchester)

NEWPORT CTY (1) 3 POOLE TOWN (0) 1
Oakes, Aldridge, Lewis — Allen
3,080.
Winners away to Harrow

PLYMOUTH A (0) 2 SOUTHEND U (0) 0
Stead og, Tynan
5,570
(aet; winners at home to Barking)

WYCOMBE (0) 1 CHELMSFORD (1) 2
Glynn — Bishop, Anderson
1,937
Winners away to Gillingham

YORK CITY (1) 2 MACCLESFIELD (0) 0
Sbragia, Byrne
4,963
Winners at home to Rochdale

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby 2, West Bromwich Albion 1; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Burnley 1. Second division: Blackpool 3, Grimsby 1; Chesterfield 1, Barnsley 1; Rotherham 0, Middlesbrough 3.

MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Second round replay: Uxbridge 3, Hampton 0. Second round: Harrow 3, Edgware 2.

Second division

SWANSEA (1) 1 CHELSEA (3) 3
Pascoe — Bumstead, Nevin, Dixon
7,843

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheffield W	15	11	4	0	29	11	37
Chelsea	16	9	6	1	34	16	33
Man City	15	10	1	4	29	18	31
Newcastle	15	9	2	4	31	21	29
Huddersfield	15	7	6	2	22	11	27
Grimsby	15	7	4	4	22	18	25
Charlton	16	6	6	4	20	22	24

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: St Mirren 4, Dundee United 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Barking 2, Dulwich Hamlet 3; Bromley 0, Worthing 5; Carshalton 3, Bognor Regis 2; Hendon 0, Bishop's Stortford 0; Sutton United 4, Tooting and Mitcham 1; Wokingham 2, Hitchin 0. First division: Boreham Wood 0, Chesham 1; Epsom and Ewell 2, Woking 1; Kingstonian 2, Cheshunt 1; Walton and Hersham 1, Metropolitan Police 7; Windsor and Eton 1, Farnborough 0. Second division: Finchley 1, Grays 0; Horsham 1, Leyton-Wingate 2; Hungerford 1, Tring 1; Rainham 3, Eastbourne United 2; St Albans 3, Letchworth 2.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedworth 0, Gloucester 0.
ULSTER CUP: Final: Coleraine 2, Glentoran 5 (aet: score after 90 mins 2-2).

RUGBY

CLUB MATCHES: Orrell 23, Halifax 3.
CORNWALL MERIT TABLE: Launceston 28, Penryn 10.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Brighton v Reading (7.15), Fulham v Norwich (2.0).
FA COUNTY YOUTH CUP: Second round: Surrey v Kent (at Leatherhead FC).
MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Second round: Enfield v Hillingdon.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Abbey v Frankfurt American (at Abbey FC).

SNOOKER

UK Professional Tournament (Guild Hall, Preston).

BASKETBALL

ASDA CUP: Quarter final: Sunderland v Warrington.

Giant in the slalom: Fabienne Serrat, of France, on her way to victory in the first event of the world series at Bormio, in the Italian Alps.

Neil Macfarlane, Minister of Sport, flanked by the latest members of the Sports Council: Sebastian Coe and Steve Coppell. Photograph: Chris Harris

New assignments for two famous sportsmen

Sebastian Coe, already set for what he regards as the toughest chapter of his athletics career, accepted a second important challenge yesterday when he was welcomed as one of the two latest recruits to the Sport Council.

Coe, the world 800 metres and one mile record holder, and Steve Coppell, the England and Manchester United footballer whose career was cut short by injury, bring the council's membership to 24.

In London yesterday Coe said: "To be asked to contribute to anything at this level of sport is quite awe inspiring. It is indeed a big challenge." He added that the new appointment would work in well with his membership of the International Olympic Congress Athletes Commission.

The two men have been appointed by Neil MacFarlane, the Minister of Sport, who said that although Coe was in for a busy time with the council, his priority would be winning honours for Britain in the Olympic Games.

Coe has now been declared "healthy, if not fit" by his doctor ater suffering an illness which prevented him challenging for a title in the first world championships this summer.

"The doctor is very happy with me, but there is a long way to go before I am back to full athletic fitness," he said. "But I would not begin working my way back unless there was a good chance that I could make it.

"It is the biggest challenge I have faced as an athlete – and there is no point in pulling any punches. I hope to run well next season, but there is a hell of a lot of work to do.

"In all, I have had one and a half years of problems, but you have to take the rough with the smooth, although I have had a little too much of the rough lately. I have begun my conditioning work, mainly in the gymnasium, and the serious training may not come until after Christmas."

Mr Macfarlane said that Coe and Coppell were "household names with world-wide reputations in their sport" and their expertise would be of great help to the council.

It had always been his desire, he said, to appoint people who had not forgotten their sport and had a determination to make a strong contribution to an organization rather than 'just collecting committees'. He felt the council now had a strong representation in all directions. Apart from the chairman, all appointments are unpaid and last for a maximum term of three years.

Coppell, a BA graduate in economics at Liverpool University, retires as chairman of th Professional Footballers Association at the end of the year and hopes to become a club manager. "I could not be more delighted," he said.

Salazar for Japan

Tokyo (Reuter) – Alberto Salazar, the American holder of the world's fastest time for a marathon, will make his first appearance in a marathon since he was beaten into fifth place in Rotterdam in April, when he runs in the Fukuoka event on December 4.

SNOOKER

Johnson on course for last eight

Joe Johnson was yesterday to add David Taylor, the ninth seed, to his season's list of snooker giant-killings, in the United Kingdom professional championship, sponsored by Coral, at Preston. Jonson, who underlined his potentil by reaching the final of the professional players' tournament in October and beat John Virgo, the No. 8 seed, in the first round at Preston, led 5-3 against Taylor after the first session of an enthralling second round match which finishes today.

If Johnson wins, he will make his first appearance in fornt of television cameras in a mafor tournament. He took a 3-0 lead, including a bread of 53 in the third frame, but let Taylor off the hook in the fourth when he missed the pink with the scores level. Taylor gratefully sank pink and black to make it 3-1. Johnson scraped home 63-61 in the fifth frame and added a break of 80 in the sixth to take a 5-1 lead. Taylor then took the last two frames of the session to give himself a fighting chance today.

Taylor said: "If you are a little under par, Joe murders yor and I am the luckiest man alive to be only 5-3 down. At least there is a chance of a match now".

John Spencer, three times former world champion, was level at 4-4 against Tony Meo in their second round match.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New York Knicks 117, Boston Celtics 113; Atlanta Hawks 104, Indiana Pacers 93; Golden State Warriors 102, Washington Bullets 101; Philadelphia 76ers 112, Detroit Pistons 108; Dallas Mavericks 118, San Antonio Spurs 117; Kansas City Kings 118, San Diego Clippers 99; Houston Rockets 118, Phoenix Suns 98; Portland Trail Blazers 156, Denver Nuggets 116; Utah Jazz 130, Los Angeles Lakers 126;
LONDON LEAGUE: St Albans 1, Cambridge University 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal Canadiens 4, Boston Bruins 2; New York Islanders 3, Quebec Nordiques 2; St Louis Blues 7, Toronto Maple Leafs 4;

BADMINTON

BOMBAY: Indian Masters tournament: Men's doubles: M Dew and S Baddeley (Eng) bt M Kjeldsen and Mr Frost (Den), 11-15, 15-7, 15-12. Women's singles: J Webster (Eng) bt Liu Jin Fant (China), 6-11, 12-10, 11-3.

SKIING

BORMIO: Italy: World series: Women's giant slalom: 1, F Serrat (Fr), 2min 20.38sec; 2, B Ochoa (Sp), 2:20.52; 3, E Hess (Switz), 2:20.82.

RACKETS

SCHOOLS MATCH: Clifton beat Rugby 2-1 (Clifton names first): A Scott and P Briggs lost to C Hannaford and J Lindsay, 13-16, 9-15, 15-8, 15-11, 12-15, 5-15; G Palmer and D White bt G Lewis and M Brown, 15-8, 15-10, 13-18, 15-0, 15-6; R Sage and K Rashid bt J Wright and L Woodmansey, 11-15, 15-8, 11-16, 18-14, 17-14.

TENNIS

JOHANNESBURG: South African Open: First round: C Panatta (It) bt R Venter (SA), 7-6, 6-2; Tim Gullikson (US) bt B Kleege (US), 6-3, 6-1; J Higueras (Sp) bt F Buehning (US), 6-8, 7-5; C Kirmayr (Br) bt B Boileau (Bel), 7-6, 0-6, 6-4; C Dowdeswell (GB) bt J Lapidus (US), 6-3, 6-1; B Gilbert (US) bt H de Wet (SA), 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; C Motta (Br) bt W Scanlon (US), 6-2, 6-4; J Kriek (US) bt M Westphal (WG), 6-2, 6-1.
TOULOUSE: Grand prix tournament, first round: S Simonsson (Swe) bt C Zipf (WG) 6-3, 6-1; L Pimek (Cz) bt P Slozil (Cz) 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; P Arraya (Peru) bt S Birner (Cz) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; D Perez (Uru) bt B Mitton (SA) 5-2, ret; B Fritz (Fr) bt J-L Haillet (Fr) 6-0, 6-4; M Bahrami (Iran) bt G Forget (Fr) 6-3, 5-7, 6-2; G Ocleppo (It) bt S Walts (US) 6-4, 7-5; H Gunthardt (Switz) bt T Hogstedt (Swe) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Second round: J Becka (WG) bt S Simonsson (Swe) 4-6, 6-4, 6-6; J Brown (US) bt S Brawley (US) 6-1, 6-3.

RUGBY UNION

Inefficiency in defence puts a blight on fruit of creative ability

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Cambridge University 20
M R Steele-Bodger's XV 38

The Universities will really have to give up their celebrity games. Last week, against Major Stanley's side, Oxford lost their captain, MacNeill, with a knee injury which still makes his presence at Twickenham on December 6 doubtful: Yesterday at Grange Road, Cambridge watched Andrew, their centre, limp off with only one game left before the University match. He has a "dead" leg, and will probably miss the game with Harlequins on Saturday.

Andrew had already left the field once after a heavy tackle and by the time he went off for good Steele-Bodger's side had ensured victory, largely through the agency of Cardus, the burly Wasps wing. The guest team, it seemed, had only to feed Cardus for a try to materialise. He scored four, helped to make the run which led to the award of a penalty try and left the others to the New Zealanders, Green and Robertson, as Steele-Bodger's team won by five goals and two tries to a goal, two tries and two penalty goals.

Defence is the aspect of Cambridge's game which makes it easier to understand their run of defeats against club sides this term. They have lost none of their bright creative ability. They used the ball well and, just as they have in several games, they took an early lead and held it until after half-time.

It took that period for Steele-Bodger's XV to come together under the genial leadership of Ripley. The mischievous imp which has always lurked in the former England No 8, persuaded him to call two "funny" penalties, once involving all his side save the scrum half in a large circle. A swift Gregorian Chant and Cullen fed the ball into the circle where it was involved in a game of pass the parcel before Macklin broke off and was promptly tackled by Cambridge. Roger Quittenton, who had eyed proceedings with interest, then had great delight in awarding the University a penalty.

Bailey opened the scoring with a try in which he deceived Hampel on the outside. Andrew kicked a penalty and when Smith joined his line and chipped through, the ball squirmed away from the cover and Simms got the touch down, Chesworth converting.

Within eight minutes the lead had been reduced to a single point: Cardus supported Robertson, and when Steele-Bodger the younger was enveloped three yards from the line Mr Quittenton awarded a penalty try for a high tackle which Smith, the stand off, converted. The Bedford player also added a conversion when Cardus, playing opposite Bailey, crossed for a try after what looked suspiciously like a forward pass. Chesworth's penalty made the interval score 16-12 to the university.

Bailey scored his second try after a switch by Chesworth, and good work from his locks, but from then on the university's possession began to run dry. Worse still they could make no impression on Cardus, who ran in tries three and four, beating off a variety of would-be tacklers. Ripley sent Green in on the corner, then it was the turn of Cardus again before Robertson, one of several All Blacks of past and present vintage in Cambridge on the day, scored the last try. Smith kicked three more conversions and MacNeill and his Oxford colleagues left Grange Road with revived hope for their December date.

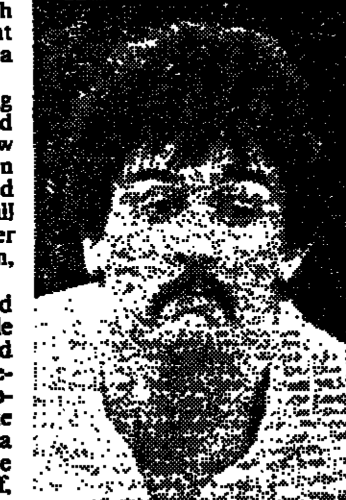
SCORERS: Cambridge University: Tries: Bailey (2), Smith. Conversion: Chesworth. Penalties: Andrew, Chesworth. M R Steele-Bodger's XV: Tries: Cardus (4), Green, Robertson, penalty try. Conversions: Smith (5).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: *S Smith (King Edward VI, Lichfield and Magdalene); M Canning (University College School and Corpus Christi), K Simms (West Park GS and Emmanuel), *R Andrew (Barnard Castle and St John's, rep. M Breddy, Cheltenham and Fitzwilliam), *M Bailey (Ipswich and Corpus Christi, capt); K Chesworth (Greshams and Magdalene), S Roberts (Manchester GS and Christ's); *R Bailey (Lancaster RGS and Fitzwilliam), *R Murray (Pryor Grange Lichfield and Trinity), G Linn (Stewarts Melville and Trinity Hall), I Morrison (Glenalmond and Pembroke), W Stileman (Wellington College and Selwyn), C Ewbank (Felsted and St John's), A Harper (Sydney University and Downing) P David (RGS Guildford and Trinity Hall).

M R STEELE-BODGER'S XV: A Hampel (Richmond); C Green (Canterbury and New Zealand), W Osborne (Wanganui and New Zealand), B Robertson (Counties and New Zealand), R Cardus (Wasps and England); S Smith (Bedford), J Cullen (Wasps); P Blakeway (Gloucester and England), S Steele-Bodger (Rugby), P Enevoldsen (London Irish), J Macklin (London Scottish), W Cuthbertson (Harlequins and Scotland), R Wilkinson (Bedford and England), G Rees (Nottingham) A Ripley (Rosslyn Park and England, capt).

Referee: R Quittenton (London Society).

*A Blue



Cardus: scored four tries

A name blackened

Auckland (Reuter) – The All Blacks manager, Paul Mitchell rejected the accusations that the New Zealand team were guilty of foul play on their British tour when the team arrived home yesterday. The All Blacks were beaten 15-9 by England at Twickenham on Saturday at the end of a disappointing tour in which they were also held 25-25 by Scotland in their only other international match.

The match against England was hard fought and there was some criticism of the All Blacks' methods. A tackle by the winger, Bernie Fraser on John Carleton, which resulted in the England player leaving the field, was singled out for comment.

The New Zealand coach, Bryce Rope said he was surprized by the reports of violent play in the Twickenham match, and said New Zealanders, who watched the match live on television, could judge the validity of the claims for themselves.

Stuart Wilson, the captain of the touring team, said he had not enjoyed the tour as much as previous visits to Britain. He aded: "It was a happy team and I enjoyed the tour to a captain extent. But winger is not the ideal place form which to captain a rugby team, especially at international level."

Wilson said the team's failures were mainly the result of the loss of the five tight forwards who played in the four victories over the British Lions earlier in the year. Their absence had not been overcome. He said the improvement of forward and scrum-half play in British rugby had impressed him, but the standard of back play continued to be uninspired.

● SYDNEY, (AFP) – The promoter, David Lord looks likely to gain permission to stage his proposed professional World Championship Rugby (WCR) matches at the Sydney Cricket Ground and at Brisbane's Lang Park next April and May, according to "informed sources" here.

Professional rugby is scheduled to begin in England on January 14, with other matches to be played in Wales, Scotland, Ireland and France over a four-week period, but there is growing belief in Europe that his ambitious project will not get off the ground.

Yorkshire head west in fuller strength

Coventry will field their fourth-choice hooker, Steve Elvidge, in Saturday's home match against Bedford. The youth team player, aged 19, is called up because Steve Brain and Neil Gutteridge are both injured and Caspar Weston is unavailable.

Despite desperate back row problems, the club have not embarrassed players already chosen by Warwickshire by selecting them for Saturday's match. Instead, the lock forward, Rob Fardoe, who has not played in the first team for 10 weeks through a back injury, is asked to fill the vacancy at number eight and Coventry are fortunate that Martin Trumper has recovered from injury to step into the other back row vacancy.

Wasps, unbeaten all season, are forced to field virtually a second string at Metroplitan Police on Saturday, they have 16 players away on county duty for Middlesex, Hertfordshire and even Devon. The England B flanker, Andy Dun, who returned last week after a knee injury, will captain the team.

Harlequins, who give up 10 players to county rugby this weekend, have three New Zealanders and an American eagle on duty for the visit to Cambridge University this weekend. The American, Willie Jefferson, has worked his way up the ladder and is rewarded with a place on the replacement's bench. The New Zealanders, Jamie Salmon and Brett Codlin, are joined by the hooker, Andy Robertson.

John Scott, who needed eight stitches in a head wound after helping England defeat New Zealand last Saturday, will lead Cardiff against Llanelli at Stradey Park on Saturday. The number eight has told the selectors he will be fit.

The selectors considered the fact that he is playing in a midweek game and have chosen the team we consider to be the best side to play on Saturday, Clive Cross, the chairman of selectors, said.

Tony Brooks, a former Oxford University blue and Mackins old varsity rival, is his replacement. The Bath forward has already played two games for Devon in the county championship this season – at blind side flanker.

The only other Devon change sees the return of the former England colt, Terry Chapman (Plymouth Albion), to lock after a shoulder injury to Andy Hopgood (Exeter).

Peter Kolokotroni (Birkenhead Park) is recalled to Cheshire's wing for their second division relegation play-off against North Midlands at Stourbridge. Laurence Smith (Tabard) must pass a fitness test on his knee before playing in the other second division relegation play-off, for Hertfordshire against Warwickshire at Croxley Green.

Somerset salad days, page 27

MOTOR RALLYING

Blomqvist, the eventual winner, prepares to start out on the final day (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Blomqvist finishes out on his own

Stig Blomqvist, driving a British-prepared Audi Quattro, had almost 10 minutes to spare when winning the Lombard RAC Rally which finished in Bath yesterday. Hannu Mikola, his Audi team-mate and the new world champion finished second. Blomqvist took control on Saturday and emphasised his superiority over Mikkola by being fastest in 36 of the 57 stages.

It was the perfect reward for Blomqvist, the British open champion, who has been forced to play second fiddle in the Audi team this team this year to help Mikkola towards his first world title.

Blomqvist took full advantage when Mikkola crashed on Sunday and then never allowed the Finn a glimmer of hope, eventually winning by 9 min and 53 secs. It was a second win in the RAC for Blomqvist, his previous success coming 12 years ago. Mikkola has now been second three times and won four times.

Jimmy McRae, who had not finished higher than 11th before this year, drove well to finish third in an Opel Manta and break the Audi monopoly at the top. Although he was more than 20 minutes behind the winner, McRae was nearly five minutes clear of Lasse Lampi in another Audi and won the race against Russell Brookes to be the top Briton.

McRae said: "I was always confident I would finish ahead of Russell. It was important to be the first Briton home but more important to take third place in the RAC which is a world championship event."

RESULT: 1, S Blomqvist (Swe), Audi Quattro, 8hr:50min:28sec; 2, H Mikkola (Fin), Audi Quattro, 9:00:21; 3, J McRae (GB), Opel Manta, 9:12:19; 4, Lampi (Fin), Audi Quattro, 9:16:57; 5, R Brookes (GB), Vauxhall Chevette, 9:99:01; 6, J Buffum (US), Audi Quattro, 9:21:16; 7, J Kankkunen (Fin), Toyota Celica, 9:31:49; 8, K Grundel (Swe), Volkswagen Golf, 9:38:20; 9, M Sundstrom (Fin), Opel Ascona, 9:42:18; 10, M Jonsson (Swe), Opel Ascona, 9:45:07.

TENNIS

Dutch girl silences the crowd and opponent

By Lewine Mair

At the halfway stage of the third week of the LTA's month-long indoor international satellite tour, several of the players are beginning to look a little irritable and jaded.

Judith Warringa, the first seed at the Ace Tennis Centre, Coventry, was perhaps more out of sorts than most. She won through yesterday against Lisa Pennington, a Leicstershire girl who does all her training here, but only after three sets – 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 – and two visits from the tournament referee, Georgina Clark.

The first time Mrs Clark was called to the court was when Miss Warringa caught a ball which, in the opinion of all those standing on the balcony above, was unmistakeably on the line. As Miss Pennington stood patiently at the net, asking her opponent to give it another thought, Miss Warringa took not one whit of notice and simply set herself up to serve again.

The Dutch girl was duly allowed to keep the point, but from that moment the crowd made no secret of whose side they were on and soon pulled Miss Pennington through the first set. Those who last week saw Miss Warringa hand her semi-final match to Carol Daniels, of the United States, on the proverbial plate, felt that the second set might well be 6-0 for Miss Pennington.

As it turned out, though, Miss Warringa controlled herself well enough to win it 6-4. The decider was one-sided, but there was trouble once more as Miss Warringa insisted that a game Miss Pennington thought she had won was still unfinished.

Mrs Clark said later that much though she would like to see umpires in charge of all the matches on a tour such as this, the extra cost involved made it out of the question.

RESULTS: J Warringa (Neth) bt L Pennington (GB) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1; J Fikoff (US) bt L Wilcox (US) 6-7, 7-5, 6-2; E Jones (GB) bt S Hack (WG) 6-3, 6-4; C Daniels (US) bt E Lightbody (GB) 7-5, 6-1; C Fullerton (US) bt A Iuale (It) 6-3, 6-1; I Cueto (WG) bt S Sullivan (GB) 7-6, 6-3; D Moise (Rom) bt L Geeves (GB) 6-3, 1-0 (ret); K Schuurmans (Bel) bt S Mair (GB) 7-5, 6-4.

Miss Hobbs upsets seed

Sydney (Reuter) – Anne Hobbs, of Britain, produced one of the surprise results in the New South Wales women's open championships yesterday with a comfortable triumph over the No 9 seed, Claudia Kohde, of West Germany, while Carling Bassett, of Canada, the No 5 seed, lost to the Puerto Rican, Gigi Fernandez, aged 19, a professional for only 10 days.

Miss Hobbs, often infuriatingly inconsistent, found her best form to win 6-4, 7-5, and then admitted: "I didn't surprise myself. I always believe I have the ability to beat players of her class." Four seeds were thus dismissed from the tournament in 24 hours. The previous day the No 1 seed, Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, and the No 7 seed, Barbara Potter, were beaten by unranked opponents.

Miss Fernandez, who borrowed money from her father to travel here and play, took her earnings to more than £2,500 since turning professional, with an enthralling 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over Miss Bassett. Miss Hobbs' win carried her into a third round match with the No 3 seed, Joanna Durie, also of Britain, today while Miss Fernandez will meet the Australian, Elizabeth Sayers, who knocked out Miss Mandlikova.

RESULTS: Second round (US unless stated): K Jordan bt S Walsh, 6-4, 4-6, 7-5; A White bt A Henrickson, 5-7, 7-6, 6-4; K Shaefer bt H Ludloff, 6-2, 6-3; A Hobbs (GB) bt C Kohde (WG), 6-4, 7-5; H Sukova (Cz) bt A Kiyomura, 6-7, 6-0, 6-0. Third round: E Sayers (Aus) bt S Acker, 6-4, 6-4; G Fernandez bt C Bassett (Can), 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; E Pfaff (WG) bt A Dingwall (Aus), 6-4, 6-4.

● The American, Andrea Jaeger, has withdrawn from the Australian open championships in Melbourne next week because of a shoulder injury and a virus infection. Miss Jaeger, ranked third in the world, notified the organisers of her decision yesterday. Chris Lloyd, the world No 2, also decided not to comp ete, in order to rest a foot injury.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Phelps in footsteps of his uncle

Richard Phelps, who came close to a medal in the last modern pentathlon world championships, has gained early selection for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles next year. Phelps, aged 22, follows in the footsteps of his uncle and coach Robert, who represented Britain in all the Olympics and world championships fromk 1964-1974.

"I am absolutely delighted," Phelps said yesterday. "It now means I can gear all my training to one big peak performance

The rest of the team will be finalized after the Diners Club international at Crystal Palace next April, when Britain take on the Soviet Union, the United States, Hungary, West Germany, Italy, France and Sweden. With Danny Nightingale, a member of the successful Plympic team in Montreal, now back in training after a year of injury and illness problems and other top contenders like Steve Sowerby and Mike Mumford doing well, Britain have the chance of mounting another big Olympic challenge.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Hormone drug is legal

Los Angeles (AP) – Somatropin, a human growth hormone used by athletes to increase their strength, will be legal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Athletes will not even be tested for the drug, Prince Alexandre de Merode of Belgium said on Tuesday in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Prince Alexandre, chairman of the International Olympic Committee's medical commission, told the *Los Angeles Times* that IOC doctors has been investigating use of the drug for six months, since well before reports of its use surfaced at the world athletics championships last summer in Helsinki.

Somatropin, also called STH or HGH, is used mainly to treat children with pituitary diseases. Athletes have apparently used it to enhance size and strength, as they have anabolic steroids, the use of which have been prohibited. However there are no reliable tests for detecting somatropin, which unlike the steroids passes from the system in a few days.

RACING: FIGURES DOUBLED AT NEWMARKET SALES

Winter to warm up with a double

By Michael Seely

John Francome, who is 12 winners behind John O'Neill in the race for the jockey's title, is going to make a bold effort to reduce the gap in the near future. At Newbury on Saturday the reigning champion and Brown Chamberlin will be atempting to credit both the jockey and Fred Winter with their first success in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup. At Wincanton this afternoon the most formidable partnership in the jumping game can land a double by winning the Filtrans Handicap Hurdle with Areus and the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Cup with Plundering.

In the London offices yesterday all the Hennessy money was predictably for Everett and Midnight Love, whose prices have shortened to 7-2 and 4-1 respectively with most firms. The longest odds on offer against Brown Chamberlin is the 13-2 with Mecca.

After his five wins from six starts as a novice, including an impressive victory in the Sun Alliance Chase, Brown Chamberlin was considered to be a leading contender for last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup. However, after winning two of his first three races in the autumn, this handsome chaser fell from grace and his season ended in disaster at the National Hunt Festival when he was pulled up behind Bregawn in the Gold Cup after making too many mistakes.

Brown Chamberlin has taken on a new lease of life this season and his confidence appears to be restored after two easy victories at Wincanton and Chepstow. Significantly he was ridden up with the pace on both occasions and seemed to enjoy himself at the head of affairs.

Conceivably Brown Chamberlin is going to take some beating on Saturday now that he is on a more reasonable mark in the handicap and racing on ground that he likes. "We overrated him", Winter said yesterday. "And that included myself as well as the public and the punter."

Like all his colleagues the seven-times champion trainer is frustrated by the continuing drought as he sits and suffers with his usual strong team of potential talent. "You can't risk them in these conditions. It's simply not worth it. If you get it wrong, the horse is out for the season at least. I have not been able to school outside for a month. And its not safe to gallop on the grass. All the fast work is taking place on wood shavings".

Areus and Plundering have both shown their liking for the firm going and Winter has no option but to try to strike again while the iron is hot. Areus collected a 4lb penalty when foiling a gamble on Almighty Zeus at Ascot last Friday. He may have been slightly flattered by this result as Francombe outwitted his fellow jockeys, but Arcus may stil be good enough to concede the weight to Lucky George and Dropshot.

Plundering, on the other hand, appears to face an easier task in the handicap chase. This improving young horse beat Bashful Lad in fine style at Wolverhampton and is a firm choice to beat Koga Way and David Nicholson's Sandown winner, Lucky Call.

If the go-ahead is given at Haydock racegoers can start the afternoon on a good note by watching Wayward Lad beat Snowtown Boy and Fortina's Express in the Edward Hanmer Memorial Chase, which was carried forward from yesterday and is being run at 12.30. The best bet on the Lancashire course could well be Kudos in the St Helens Handicap Chase.

Fred Winter: overrated Brown Chamberlin

Finally it is still not certain who will ride Midnight Love on Saturday. Michael Dickinson has said that of Marnik is withdrawn, Robert Earnshaw will take the mount on Ashley House, leaving Graham Bradley free for Midnight Love. However, Denys Smith said yesterday: "I want to know Graham's decision by Thursday night at the latest, or I'll have to find another jockey. Otherwise its not fair on the owners".

Salieri's half brother makes top price

By Simon O'Loughlin

A half-brother to the high-class sprinter Salieri was the highest-priced yearling at 96,000 guineas on the opening day of the Newmarket December Sales yesterday. The bay or brown colt, who was submitted by Jim and Brenda Squires's Hubbards Lodge Stud in Leicestershire, was bought by the Newmarket trainer, Jeremy Hindley, on behalf of an oil businessman from the United Arab Emirates, whose first racehorse this is. The underbidder was Cormac McCormack, the agent.

The colt is by the American stallion, Dewan, whose most notable performer in this country was Khaled Abdullah's fast juvenile Abeer. The colt's dam, the unraced Hogan's Sister, is a half-sister to Father Hogan, also by Dewan, who won eight races and $310,460 in the United States. Salieri won the Mill Reef Stakes last year, and the Hungerford Stakes and Diadem Stakes in 1983.

Trade yesterday was slowed by the withdrawal of a third of the lots but the 85 yearlings sold aggregated 971,900 guineas – more than double last year's corresponding figure of 479,080 guineas when 68 yearlings changed hands. Yesterdays yearling average of 11,434 guineas was 62 per cent up on the 7,045 guineas average achieved in 1982.

An American stud owner, Robert Entenmann, who sold the broodmare, Habituee, in foal to Nijinsky, for $1,850,000 at Keeneland last week, reinvested 75,000 guineas yesterday for a colt from the first crop of the 1979 Champion Stakes winner, Northern Baby. This chestnut half-brother to the Irish 1,000 Guineas winner, More So, looked sure to attract a high price, but there seemed little interest in him until Entenmann stepped in.

Another 75,000 guineas purchase was Cloghran Stud's bay Riverman colt, who was bought by the agent, Frank Barry. Barry was acting for a syndicate of three, which includes a fellow Bloodstock agent, Michael O'Sullivan, and may be sent to the Irish trainer, Mick O'Toole. The Colt's dam, Marchpane, is a winning own-sister to Ile de Flottante, who won twice in group races in Italy.

The only other Riverman yearling to be offered in Europe this year is the colt at the centre of the disappearing bidder controversy at the Highflyer Sales. That colt is now the subject of a High Court action over who stands the £250,000 loss incurred when he was re-offered.

● Tender King, winner of the 1981 Richmond Stakes and placed in both the English and Irish 2,000 Guineas, has been retired to the Fawley Stud at Wantage, in Oxfordshire. He will stand at a fee of £2,000, live foal.

The four-year-old son of Prince Tenderfootwas a high-class miler in the hands of John Sutcliffe, but after being sent to race in the United States this year, did not run because of injury.

Haydock Park

Tote Double 1.30, 2.30. Treble 1.0, 2.0, 3.0.

12.30 EDWARD HANMER CHASE (Limited Handicap: £5,983: 3m) (3 runners).

2 13213-1 WAYWARD LAD (CD). (Mrs S Thewlis) M. W. Dickinson 8-11-3 ... R Earnshaw
10 2211F-30 SNOWTOWN BOY (CD) (Mrs M Kean) J Berry 8-10-7 ... J J O'Neill
11 2F0-33R FORTINA'S EXPRESS (D) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 9-10-7 ... R Lamb

1-5 Wayward Lad, 6 Snowtown Boy, 10 Fortina's Express.

1.0 CLUB HURDLE (Handicap: £1,417: 2m 6f) (8).

5 01-4411 REPINGTON (B) (J Gilman) N Crump 5 11 8 ... C Hawkins
6 22030-2 LAWNSWOOD MISS (C) (A Hill) R Hollinshead 5-11-7 ... J J O'Neill
9 0100-04 BLEATHWOOD (CD) (R Jenneway) K G White 7-10-13 ... J Williams
10 100-020 NATIVE BREAK (R Edwards) Mrs W Sykes 6-10-12 ... S Morshead
12 3100/3-0 THESEUS (J Blundell) J Blundell 6-10-7 ... D Dutton
17 2-11303 LOCHLINNHE (R Thompson) R Thompson 4-10-2 ... K Whyte
18 00-2220 OPTIMUM (S Marsh) R F Fisher 5-10-0 ... J Duggan (7)
20 424009 BRIGADIER GREEN (Mrs D Hoyle) C Hoyle 6-10-0 ... Mr P Avery

9-4 Lawnswood Miss, 11-4 Repington, 7-2 Lochlinnhe, 9-2 Native Break, 7 Optimum, 12 others.

1.30 VAUX BREWERIES CHASE (Novices: £1,913: 3m) (6).

6 082F-00 COLD BLOOD (R Baylis) K B White 7-11-0 ... J Williams
7 030-3 GRAND HARMONY (N McGrady) Mrs M Rimell 6 11 0 ... S Morshead
9 000-3 LITTLE TIGER (Mrs B Ramsden) N Crump 6-11-0 ... C Hawkins
11 423322 SIR MARCUS (Mrs G Reed) W Reed 7-11-0 ... Mr T Reed (7)
12 P42F0-0 STRAWHILL (Mrs L Ford) E Alston 8-11-0 ... –
13 42330-2 WEST TIP (P Luff) M Oliver 6-11-0 ... –

10-11 West Tip, 4 Little Tiger, 6 Grand Harmony, 9 Sir Marcus, 12 Cold Blood, 16 Strawhill.

2.0 NORTHERN HURDLE (3-y-o: £1,716: 2m 4f) (7).

1 41 ALL THE QUEENS MEN (B) (Theodorou) M Lambert 11-0 ... P A Charlton
3 F3219 GILDED STRACOMER (B) (C Fergus) G Lockerbie 11-0 ... C Hawkins
7 0310 NORTH KEY (J Wolstenholme) M Naughton 11-0 ... M Dwyer
9 P1 SCOTCH RUN (K Stone) K Stone 11-0 ... A Brown
10 342 SOLARES (J Berry) J Berry 11-0 ... M Berry (7)
13 114310 STAR CHARTER (R Ellis) J Jenkins 11-0 ... J J O'Neill
14 01 INVINCIBLE SHADOW (Seafoco Ltd) B McMahon 10-9 ... R Crank

11-4 All The Queens Men, 7-2 Star Charter, 4 Gilded Stracomer, 6 Invincible Shadow, 8 Scotch Run, 10 North Key, 12 Solares.

2.30 ST HELENS CHASE (handicap: £2,919: 4m) (8).

1 PYY-312 KUDOS (J Blundell) J Blundell 8-11-7 ... D Dutton
3 F-24111 HOLBORN HEAD (J Walker) W A Stephenson 7-10-12 (3 ex) ... K Jones (4)
4 P0-0333 SALKELD (Ld Zetland) N Crump 11-10-8 ... C Hawkins
5 203-430 TANIA'S LAD (W Moss) W Francis 9-10-5 ... R Crank
6 F303P-0 WREMANDO (E Price) P O'Connor 9-10-4 ... S Jobar
9 330440- PAMPAS DEMON (B Temple) B Temple 10-10-0 ... C Pimlott
10 PP/0-34 JER (G Wyse) P Bevan 12-10-0 ... S J O'Neill
11 P0P400 YALU (F Hargreaves) E Alston 10-10-0 ... S Morshead

7-4 Kudos, 9-4 Holborn Head, 7-2 Salkeld, 8 Tania's Lad, 12 Jer, 16 others.

3.0 GARSWOOD HURDLE (novices: £1,236: 2m) (7).

2 0011 HOUGHTON WEAVER (D) (W Holden) Wilfred Holden 4-11-9 ... D Wilkinson
3 011 KILROE'S CALIN (D) (T Kilroe & Sons) J Fitzgerald 4-11-4 ... M Dwyer
10 0/04-200 HARFORD (Monmore Auto Spares Ltd) B McMahon 6-11-0 ... –
17 0F0-P ADJUSTED (H Yates) R Hollinshead 4-10-9 ... J J O'Neill
19 CHARLIE MAY (F Barton) F Barton 4-10-9 ... –
35 HAGEN QUEEN (B Chambers) C Crossley 4-10-4 ... R Crank
36 0 LEAH'S PEARLS (J Taylor) T Taylor 4-10-4 ... –

8-11 Kilroe's Calin, 11-4 Houghton Weaver, 8 Harford, 12 Adjusted, 16 Charlie May, 20 others.

3.30 RAINFORD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (handicap: £958: 2m 4f) (8).

5 402-323 SECRET FINALE (W Morris) M Lambert 4-11-7 ... A Fogarty (5)
7 04F1-03 MR MCCANN (A Morgan) R Fisher 4-11-0 ... J Duggan (5)
10 323-003 DUSTY FARLOW (D) (R Morris) R Morris 4-10-13 ... P Dever (3)
14 020000 CASHED IN (C Cottrell) K White 7-10-10 ... P Finch (7)
15 0010/00 MEASURE UP (C) (J W Blundell) J Blundell 7-10-9 ... D Dable (7)
16 214P-00 CUTTING COMMENT (J Harrison) J Taylor 8u-10-9 ... –
18 0-44111 CASAL ROYALE (D Thompson) D McCain 5-10-7 (6 ex) ... –
19 294F-P0 NORTHERN KNIGHT (R Thompson) R Thompson 6-10-7 ... Jayne Thompson (7)

15-8 Casal Royale, 5-2 Secret Finale, 7-2 Mr McCann, 7 Northern Knight, 10 Dusty Farlow, 14 others.

Haydock selections

By Michael Seely

12.30 Wayward Lad. 1.0 Repington. 1.30 Grand Harmony. 2.0 All The Queens Men. 2.30 Kudos. 3.0 Harford. 3.30 Mr McCann.

Prospects much brighter

The first casualties of the National Hunt season occured yesterday when both Haydock Park and Ludlow were lost because of frost. However, the picture looks brighter for today's meetings at Wincanton and Haydock.

Haydock plan a precautionary inspection at 7.15, but at Wincanton no problems are expected. Mr Meredith, clerk of the course, said yesterday morning: "We could have raced today. The forecast is for a mild night and no inspection is planned."

Prospects for racing at Newbury and Leicester tomorrow also look bright. Newbury could have raced yesterday and Leicester "might have been able to race." With much milder weather generally forecast for the weekend, Saturday's cards look reasonably safe.

Wincanton

12.45 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div I: novices: £646: 2m) (9 runners)

2 /3p-140 RIVERS LAD (R Mayes) G Balding 5-11-7 ... B Reilly
6 /000-00 BERGENROSE (The Lady Borwick) T Forster 5-11-0 ... H Davies
7 00-03 BUNCE BOY (M Sanderson) Miss A Sinclair 7-11-0 ... S Johnson
9 GARTER STAR (D Chappel) B Forsey 5-11-0 ... M Richards 4
10 00 HINTON CORNER (K Trowbridge) C Wildman 6-11-0 ... Mr S Bush 7
14 SWEDISH BEAU (C Roach) C Roach 5-11-0 ... B Wright
17 00p PONTOS (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 4-10-8 ... M O'Halloran
18 324-1 SARAH'S VENTURE (Mrs J Jackson) C Horgan 4-10-10 ... L Mancini 7
19 SILVER MAID (Mrs B Davis) M Pipe 4-10-3 ... P Leach

6-4 Sarah's Venture, 3 Silver Maid, 100-30 Rivers Lad, 5 Bunce Boy, 6 Bergenrose, 8 Swedish Beau, 12 Garter Star, 16 others.

1.15 CHARD CHASE (handicap: £1,685: 2m) (8)

3 431141 TUDOR ROAD (D) (A Stoddart) L Kennard 8-11-9 (8 ex) ... R Rowe
4 1f0p-f1 WATER ROCK (C,D) (J Thorne) J Thorne 8-11-8 (8 ex) ... P Nicholls
5 301-pp3 SWORDSMAN (C,D) (R Fisher) T Forster 8-11-7 ... H Davies
6 131241 ALTAGHADERRY RUN (D) (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 8-11-4 (8 ex) ... J Lovejoy 4
8 2441fp- STILL HOPE (D) (Sir H Calley) A Turnell 7-10-7 ... Steve Knight
10 434f10/ NORTHERN DESPATCH (D) (B Scriven) B Scriven 10-10-1 ... B Powell 7
13 fppfp-p POMPOSITY (D) (J Smith) R J Smith 8-10-0 ... R Dennis 4
14 01-u30f CARBURY'S KIT (M Sanderson) Miss A Sinclair 8-10-0 ... S Johnson

9-4 Tudor Road, 11-4 Water Rock, 4 Altaghaderry Run, 7 Swordsman, 8 Still Hope, 10 Carbury's Kit, 16 others.

1.45 FILTRANS HURDLE (handicap: £2,796: 2m 6f) (9)

2 24p-231 AREUS (Mrs B Samuel) F Winter 5-11-11 (4 ex) ... J Francome
4 0pp-010 JOLIFFE'S DOUBLE (Peter Joliffe (Bookmaker) Ltd) A Barley 7-11-0 ... G McCourt
7 120031 LUCKY GEORGE (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) L Kennard 5-11-0 (4 ex) ... R Linley
8 u40300 SILVERSMITH (C) (Mrs G Malone) R Hodges 10-10-12 ... K Mooney
11 p/31231 FLASH FRED (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 6-10-10 (4 ex) ... J Lovejoy 4
12 6p200-0 PARTY MISS (B Curtis) W E Fisher 8-10-6 ... Steve Knight
13 00000/1 DROPSHOT (D) (G Moses) G Balding 8-10-3 (4 ex) ... A Webber
16 p42320 POLLY'S OWEN (Mrs M Barton) R Barton 8-10-0 ... C Brown
18 0/pfp-0 SNOWDROP WONDER (Miss P Turner) W G Turner 8-10-0 ... Miss T Turner 7

11-8 Areus, 3 Lucky George, 5 Flash Fred, 6 Dropshot, 8 Joliffe's Double, 9 Silversmith, 10 Party Miss, 16 others.

2.15 LORD STALBRIDGE CHASE (handicap: £2,523: 3m 1f) (5)

3 f0-1003 KEENGADDY (C,D) (I Single) N Gaselee 10-11-9 ... S Smith Eccles
5 310-221 KOGA WAY (D) (Mrs J Alford) J Thorne 8-11-1 (4 ex) ... P Nicholls
8 0-03131 LUCKY CALL (H Shouler) D Nicholson 9-10-12 (4 ex) ... P Scudamore
9 1f04-41 PLUNDERING (Mrs M Valentine) F Winter 6-10-12 (4 ex) ... J Francome
11 2-32232 BLACK ROD (A Baxter) N Mitchell 6-10-0 ... Mr S Sherwood 4

2 Plundering, 100-30 Koga Way, 4 Keengaddy, 9-2 Lucky Call, 8 Black Rod.

2.45 CERNE ABBAS CHASE (novices: £1,573: 2m 5f) (8)

2 p0-f101 KING'S BISHOP (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) L Kennard 6-11-10 ... DOUBTFUL
4 000410 RUN TO ME (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 8-11-7 ... Mr N Mitchell
8 30f-04f BENI (H Handel) M Pipe 7-11-2 ... P Leach
9 f0/f0- BEN SPARTAN (Capt H Lochore) N Henderson 10-11-2 ... Mr J White 4
11 00-00u0 BRITANNICUS (N B Thomson) N Thomson 7-11-2 ... R Millman 4
16 00ppf-u GENERAL PEARL (Mrs J Fraser) Mrs J Fraser 8-11-2 ... G Rees 7
18 130bf-3 ROYAL TO DO (J Sumner) T Forster 8-11-7 ... H Davies
22 p2bfff LANGTON SIEGFRIED (A House) K Bishop 5-11-6 ... P Richards

15-8 Royal To Do, 11-4 Run To Me, 5 Ben Spartan, 7 Langton Siegfried, 10 Beni, 14 Britannicus, 25 General Pearl.

3.15 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div II: novices: £649: 2m) (15)

1 /000-21 HILL-STREET-BLUES (D) (D Crates) J Fox 5-11-7 ... S Moore 7
2 41 PRIDEAUX BOY (C Roach) C Roach 5-11-7 ... B Wright
3 ADEQUATE (D Samuel) N Henderson 6-11-0 ... H Davies
6 04-2 FIONNADOIR (C Brooks) F Winter 5-11-0 ... Mr C Brooks 7
8 0-u0000 HIGH SECURITY (G Lawrey) W G Turner 7-11-0 ... Jessica Turner 7
11 0-0004 TRUE MINSTREL (H Handel) H Handel 7-10-8 ... Miss H Handel 7
12 40300-0 CORDITE SPEAR (Mrs S Tainton) J Bosley 4-10-8 ... C Smith
13 p- CORPORAL CLINGER (Jay Dee Racing Ltd) M Pipe 4-10-8 ... P Leach
15 0-4024 FAST SERVICE (B) (Mrs J Jackson) C Horgan 4-10-8 ... L Mancini 7
16 000-pp3 FLOATING LOVER (C Mitchell) N Mitchell 4-10-8 ... –
17 MANCHESTERSKYTRAIN (P Bowditch) L Cottrell 4-10-8 ... G Knight
18 00p-2 PETE ROCKET (Mrs S Hanby) D Elsworth 4-10-8 ... J H Davies 4
19 00-0 SILK SCREEN (M Ritzenberg) G Thorner 4-10-8 ... P Barton
21 0 GALA FERIA (M Humby) G Balding 4-10-3 ... B Reilly
22 p00-002 MISS PAVEH (B) (R Hawker) R Hawker 4-10-3 ... M Richards 4

3 Prideaux Boy, 4 Cordite Spear, 9-2 Hill-Street-Blues, 6 Fast Service, 7 Fionnador, 9 Pete Rocket, 10 Silk Screen, Corporal Clinger, 16 others.

Wincanton selections

By Michael Seely

12.45 Sarah's Venture. 1.15 Areus. 1.45 Dropshot. 2.15 Plundering. 2.45 Royal To Do. 3.15 Fionnadoir.

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BOXING

Blows before and blows after the bell

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Just before the lights went off and the Wembley tannoy started the toot-a-root-tooting of the fanfare that accompanies the boxer into the ring, a man handed a letter to me saying "Mr Sen, a letter from Terry Lawless". It was a bit like being in one of those 1940 Hollywood movies where Western Union find their man in some crowded hotel lobby.

An invitation, I thought. How nice.

I looked round, but my ringside colleagues had not received one. I opened the letter. It began, "Dear Srikumar Sen". Oh, dear. I got the sort of feeling one gets on receiving letters in brown paper envelopes with windows. The letter was signed formally "Terry Lawless" and marked "copy to the Sports Editor".

Lawless was complaining that his boxer, Mark Kaylor, had not being given a mention in my preview for the Wembley show, especially after I had praised him when he won the British and Commonwealth champion in September. Lawless said: "I could not help feeling disgusted with the biased way in which you have written and in particular because in your obvious desire to criticize the show you have totally ignored the involvement of the boxer under my management, Mark Kaylor."

I can understand Lawless's anger at his boxer being overlooked, for he is world-rated and will one day be meeting Marvin Hagler. But as I had mentioned Kaylor and his opponent, Tony Cerda, of Los Angeles, in an earlier piece, and the preview was about the drop in quality of the show from the one originally planned, and the changes in opponents for the middleweights, Kaylor did not fit into the scheme of things.

As it happened my criticism was proved right. Jimmy Cable knocked out John Langol, of Birmingham, in 2 min 50 sec. Nick Wilshire also flattened Bruce Johnson, who had earlier been picked for Tony Sibson, and one shudders to think what would have happened if the top British middleweight had boxed Johnson. Sibson's victory over Manuel Jiminez was so one-sided that the referee, Harry Gibbs, stopped it in the eighth to save the Peurto Rican further humiliation.

Kaylor too was in no danger of losing, though the bout with Cerda was certainly absorbing and ended dramatically with Kaylor being disqualified for hitting the Californian after the bell in the ninth, in fact knocking him out so completely that the doctor had to go to Cerda's assistance. Kaylor has to answer for his actions on December 7 when he goes before the Southern Area Council. Part of his purse was also witheld. It was quite clear that Kaylor had started a combination of punches which could not be stopped once on their way.

Kaylor: today he is wringing his hands

Sibson's bout was a disappointment in that he was not as devastating as when he knocked out John Collins in Atlantic City recently. Perhaps it has something to do with a chest infection he was complaining of after the bout. He was certainly sharper for longer periods than he had ever been in Britain, thanks to George Francis and the Carmen Graziano Gym in New Jersey that prepared him for the Collins bout. If Jiminez had no idea of how to handle Sibson, he took all the shots on his arms or on the chin without a murmur. He looked as if he could have gone on for 10 rounds but Mr Gibbs had seen enough. It is curious how much more impressive the result will look in the record books.

As if the letter from Lawless was not enough in the day in the life of a boxing writer, I had to take an ear-bashing from Mike Barrett, the promoter, earlier in the day over saying that the BBC were intending to televise Frank Bruno's bout live on December 6.

It would not be shown live, Barrett said. The BBC had offered to put it on live at 10.50 because of a new drama series taking up the earlier time, but Barrett had rejected the idea because it was too late. So those who had decided to sit back ad watch Bruno tanning Santemore, please present yourselves at the Albert Hall on December 6.

Mancini to quit the ring next year

Las Vegas (AFP) – Ray Mancini, the World Boxing Association lightweight champion, has said he will retire from the ring in 1984. The 22-year-old boxer said he would have his last two contests in 1984.

Mancini takes on a fellow American, Johnny Torres, in a non-title bout over 10 rounds here on Friday, a contest which is a curtain-raiser to the Larry Holmes v Marvis Frazier Heavyweight event.

Holmes talks of London venue

LAS VEGAS (Reuter) – Larry Holmes is being tempted to defend his world heavyweight title against the South Africa-born Gerry Coetzee. Yesterday he said: "Maybe we could fight some place half way to South Africa, say London."

Earlier, in an interview in his suite at Caesars Palace, Holmes, who has vowed never to box in South Africa, said he would be willing to meet Coetzee there – for $100m (about £68m).

"If they give me enough money I would consider going to South Africa", the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion, said.

Holmes, aged 34, who meets Marvis Frazier in a 12-round non-title heavyweight bout tomorrow night, said overtures had already been made to him regarding a unification title bout with Coetzee, the World Boxing Association (WBA) champion, and there was to be a meeting about it on Saturday.

He is also due to meet a representative of the Sun City resort complex in Bophuthatswana which wants to stage the Coetzee bout.

Holmes said he would prefer to meet Coetzee outside South Africa.

His meeting with Frazier has been moved into a 5,000-seat sports pavilion because of a forecast of near freezing temperatures and strong winds.

The WBC have said that if Holmes loses, the title would be declared vacant. They refused to sanction the bout because Frazier is not in their top 10 rankings.

"They've shown me no respect, and I don't need them", Holmes said. "I represented the WBC for five and a half years as champion, making 16 title defences and they treat me like this."

HOCKEY

Depleted Slough stay top of league

By Sydney Friskin

Slough 2
Oxford University 1

Slough, despite their difficulty in raising a side in mid week, stayed on top of the London League after beating Oxford University yesterday. So far Slough have dropped only one point, that was early in the season, in a 1-1 draw with Cambridge University, and even for that match they were short of their usual talent.

Until the twentieth minute of the second half Slough looked as though they might drop their second point, but the award of a penalty stroke, which seemed generous in the circumstances, enabled them to score the match winner. Oxford were penalized when Saunders tackled Barber, who was in possession at the tip of the circle after receiving the hit from the line at a short corner. No doubt there was a case of stick obstruction but Oxford became disheartened when a penalty stroke rather than another short corner was given.

Oxford had played with great spirit, particularly in the first half but they lost the drift of the game in the second period. They were able to raise their game despite the absence of Manjit Flora, Laly and Dak.

For Oxford Monks again worked tirelessly in the middle and there was some spirited forward play by Quirk, Robinson and Keohane. The Oxford attack, in fact, has some bright moments earl in the game. They took Slough by surprise in the 27th minute when the unmarked Keohane picked up a pass from the left by Monks and hit a well placed shot into the net.

The Oxford defence was then held under pressure and they conceded one short corner after another. Off the fifth of these awards Virdi scrambled the ball across the line to put Slough on equal terms.

Slough had 11 short corners altogether, six in the first half, whereas Oxford had none. As Slough's pressure intensified in the second half the Oxford defence was overworked and in a scramble for possession Rudden, in the Oxford rearguard, lost a tooth.

The penalty stroke for Slough was converted by Bhaji Flora

SLOUGH: P Loudon; M Parris, P J Barber (capt), R Charlesworth, K Davatwal, A John, K Partington, K Virdi, B Flora, H Sandhu, G Devatwal.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: *R Niblett (Christ Church and New); P Binks (Tasmania Univ and St John's); D Saunders (Kingston GS and New, *P J Ruddan (Magdalen CS and Hertford), *T J Monks (Devonport HS and St John's, capt), R McIntyre (Kingston GS and Christ Church), *P Keohane (Chatham House and Lincoln), *M N Robinson (Framlingham and Lincoln), C Quirk (Mill Hill and University), G Hayward (St Edward's, Oxford and Christ Church), J Chesshar (Ipswich and St John's).

Umpires: M Martin and G Dale (Southern Counties). *A Blue

CRICKET

Pitch poses spin problem for Australian selectors

From Ian Brayshaw, Brisbane

The Australian reputation for gambling on anything, even a pair of flies climbing up a wall, will be put to the test when they name their twelfth man for the second Test match against Pakistan, which starts in Brisbane tomorrow.

Given the nature of the Perth pitch, there was no hint of a gamble in the decision to start the first Test there four fast bowlers and no spinner. It was a move that paid handsome dividends. But the pitch at Brisbane's Woolloongabba ground is by no means as predictable. And the beleaguered ground staff have spent more of the past week sheltering from tropical rains than preparing the pitch.

All the indications are that the strip they finally present will be under-prepared and that the top could well start to deteriorate a couple of days into the match. Should this happen, it would impair the chances of a team without spin. So, an Australian gamble on retaining Lillee, Lawson, Hogg and Rackemann, leaving the spinner Hogan to carry the drinks again, could have serious consequences.

Pakistan, still without Imran, their leading pace bowler, will probably have to start the game with two spinners, hoping that the pitch pundits are right and that it will favour spin later in the piece.

This would be of double benefit to the touring team, already one down in the series after a poor performance in Perth. For a start, it would bring into play their trump card, the leg-spinner Qadir, and, secondly, it would help to defuse an embarrassing situation for their batsmen.

Qadir has proved, at least on his home pitches, that he can be a match-winner, and, although he has yet to settle into anything like top form in Australia, he still poses the main threat. In Perth he strugled against the left-handers, but he now believes he has solved this problem. And he appears to have established an advantge over at least one of the Australian right-handers in Hughes, the captain.

The Pakistani batsmen, with the notable exception of Omar, will have tossed and turned in fits of nightmarish sleep ever since their dismal performance against pace in Perth. The memory of some of them backing away from the line, and submitting without a fight, lingers on.

The form of Zaheer, now officially captain for the remainder of the series, must be a worry to the Pakistanis. His top score in five innings on tour so far is 30 and he is visibly shaken by the power of the Australian attack. He must set himself to play a big innings here. Wasim Raja is another who has shown little taste for pace and he may lose his place to Mansoor, even though Mansoor has done precious little since arriving in Australia.

Four Australian batsmen will also have plenty on their minds. Wessels, Hughes, Border and Chappell produced little in Perth and all will be aware that, against this attack, they should do better. In his maiden Test innings on the Brisbane ground last season, Wessels made a magnificent 162. However, his approach to the task in Perth a fortnight ago left onlookers wondering if this was the same player. Meanwhile, the form of Wood, a strong contender for an opening spot, flourishes. The other three will be fully aware of four outstanding young middle-order batsmen, Ritchie, Boon, Jones and Haysman, waiting in the wings.

If predictions are accurate and the Woolloongabba wicket is badly under-prepared, this could be a Test match in which resolute batting could win, or save, the day.

Brisbane (Reuter) – Zaheer Abbas, Pakistan's newly-appointed captain, wants Sarfraz Nawaz, the fast bowler, flown here in time for the second Test against Australia which starts tomorrow. This conflicts with an earlier announcement by Intikhab Alam, the manager, that it would be pointless to send home for replacements. When informed of Zaheer's wish to have Sarfraz flown out, Intikhab said: "If that what Zaheer wants, I am prepared to support him. But I do not think Sarfraz can get here in time for the second Test.

Richardson called up

Bombay (Reuter) – Richie Richardson, the 21-year-old Antiguan batsman, who scored 71 and 66 in the match against West Zone, was named yesterday in the West Indies' 12 for the fourth test against India stating here today.

Richardson takes the place of Augustine Logie of Trinidad. Logie failed to score in either innings of the bowler-dominated third Test in Ahmedabad, which West Indies won to go 2-0 up in the six-match series.

Another uncapped player in the West Indian 12 is the off-spinner Roger Harper, but with Logie's exclusion creating space for a batsman, he appears to have little chance of making the final eleven.

Richardson, whose batting has matured under the guidance of his hero, Vivian Richards, is an opening batsman but will go in at number six or seven if he plays. His average over four matches on the tour is 34.55.

With the West Indian selectors due to meet in the next week to pick the 15 to go to Australia for the World Series matches, there is added pressure on the players to do well here. Opening batsman Desmond Haynes and the left-hander Larry Gomes, who have not played to their full potentiol so far in the series have a greater need than most to show an improvement.

The Bombay pitch at Wankhede Stadium, with little grass on it and firmly rolled, should beideal for out-of-form batsmen to redeem themselves. But for the fact that India's batting has proved so brittle and erratic, a draw would have been the most likely result.

India will show at least three team changes from the side that lost the third Test last week as Sandeep Patil has withdrawn with an injured shoulder and Kirti Azad and Balwinder Singh Sandhu have been dropped.

Patil in fact has announced that he will not be available for either the two following Tests or the three remaining one-day internationals.

His place will go to Dilip Vengsarkar, who missed the third Test due to illness. Madan Lal is likely return in Sandhu's place and the selectors then have to decide whether all-rounder Azad should be replaced by a specialist batsman or a third spinner in Shivlal Yadav.

The choice of specialist batsman lies between Ashok Malhotra and the uncapped Gursharan Singh.

INDIA (from): Kapil Dev (captain), S M Gavaskar, A D Gaekwad, N S Siddhu, D B Vengsarkar, Gursharan Singh, A Malhotra, R J Shastri, R M H Binny, S Madan Lal, S M H Kirmani, Maninder Singh, S Yadav.

WEST INDIES (from): C H Lloyd (captain), C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, I V A Richards, H A Gomes, R B Richardson, P J Dujon, M D Marshall, W W Daniel, M A Holding, W W Davis, R A Harper.

UMPIRES: M V Gothoskar and Swaroop Kishan.

Crawford hits back

Yorkshire's club chairman, Michael Crawford, has rejected suggestions that the club conceded, under legal threat, to the rebel members' demands on proxy voting.

"They are saying they have won 90 per cent of what they asked for", Mr Crawford said. "I would put the figure at 25 per cent".

Mr Crawford added: "All we have undertaken to do is to allow a solicitor, nominated by them, to scrutinize the count and to have access to the voting slip afterwards. Otherwise all that has been agreed is a reaffirmation of normal practice at a count".

Mr Crawford also rejected criticism of the Yorkshire secretary, Joe Lister. He said: "They have accused him of being partisan. They have now accepted that he is the only person authorized to open envelopes containing proxy votes and to put them in safe keeping. To my mind that confirms the confidence we have in Mr Lister's ability and his integrity".

The Yorkshire Members 1984 were reminding county members yesterday to make sure they collected voting slips even if they had not paid their subscriptions for 1982 but were members the previous year.

BOBSLEIGH

Money talks to champions

From Chris Moore, Königssee

The world's top bobsleighers, including both British champions, are being offered lucrative contracts to turn professional. A series, similar to those already seen and planned in cricket and rugby, came to light last night when Britain's two-man and four-man champions were approached by Howard Siler, a former American driver, and joint founder of Professional Bobsleighers Associated.

Siler is in Königssee, were the British championships are being staged this week, with members of the American team who are practising for next month's Sarajevo Cup.

He confirmed to me during British practice yesterday that he has already signed up many of the leading names in the sport, including former world champions, Rene Stadler, from Switzerland, Giorgio Alvera, of Italy and Horst Floth, Of West Germany.

In addition, Eugenio Monti, universally recognized as the greatest bobber of all time with nine world championships and two gold medals to his credit, has been recruited as race director, with Pepe Bader, another former world champion, as his assistant.

Siler, who gave the US their highest placing for 25 years in finishing fifth in the last Olympic two-man event at Lake Placid, has secured that same venue for the first professional competition which he has organized directly after next February's winter Olympics in Yugoslavia. And in true Kerry Packer style, he revealed the event will be raced under floodlights, televised live, with $100,000 (approx £70,000) lined up in prize money from sponsorship.

"I have got the theatre and now I am looking for the actors," Siler said. "If everything goes as planned we will then be coming to Europe to stage similar events at the other natural tracks at Cortina, Cervinia and San Moritz. "It will be a grand prix-type tour, with points awarded for positions, to produce a world champion who stands to collect another $25,000 (£17,000)."

The one big innovation being planned by the organizers is a standing start as against the conventional running push start. "The idea of that," Siler explained, "is that everyone's start time will be the same, so that it is the skill of the driver that counts most. That way, the best driver should finish up as world champion, and not the best sledge."

That was a clear reference to the new Soviet super sledge which has caused such a stir in the sport since its remarkable success in Veltins Cup last weekend. "Unless anyone else gets their hands on one of those the Russians could have the gold medal at Sarajevo already buttoned up. But you'd have to steal it to get hold of one!" Siler added.

Malcolm Lloyd, from Swansea, winner of the British two-man title four times in the last six years, has been living in the United States since marrying an American girl 18 months ago, and revealed he has been guaranteed $3,000 just to compete at Lake Placid.

"At the present time all I am interested in is defending my title here and riding for Britain at the Olympics. I had considered retiring after that but this offer may make me think again. "With the amount of money I have spent on the sport for 14 years, I could have bought a house. This could be the only way left to recoup some of it."

John Deere, the British four-man champion, has received a similar offer. "The money isn't important to me because I have a good profession," Deere said, an insurance broker for Lloyds in London.

Lloyd: a way to recoup money spent

RUGBY LEAGUE

Amateurs may return for Cup

By Keith Macklin

The admission of Kent Invicta to the Rugby League second division may pave the way for the return of amateur teams to the Challenge Cup and the John Player Special trophy. For more than 70 years amateur teams featured in the first round of the Challenge Cup, but they were dropped when the entry of Fulham, Cardiff City and Carlisle to the second division brought the number of professional clubs to an unwieldy 33.

In a statement issued by The British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA) Ian Proctor, a spokesman, says: "With Kent's arrival swelling the professional game to 34 clubs there cannot be a case for not allowing the amateurs to return to the Challenge Cup. Two amateur sides could join six professional clubs in a preliminary round of four ties, with the winners joining the remaining 28 clubs in the first round proper".

Maurice Oldroyd, the national administrator of BARLA comments: "The game needs the David and Goliath clashes, and the return of the amateur clubs to the Cup would be a tremendous stimulus to the whole amateur game. Qualifying for the Cup was always the amateur player's Wembley, and standards at amateur levels have improved tremendously".

Pupils and masters of the James Cook High School in Sydney – named after Captain Cook – have raised £30,000 to finance the first individual tour in Britain. They begin against Greater Manchester schools on Saturday. On Wednesday they play Merseyside and South Yorkshire schools.

The tour concludes on December 7 with a match against Humberside schools. James Cook High School are the champion Australian senior school.

In search of glory with Somerset rugby

A new sun is rising in the west

Sixty years ago Somerset won the county rugby championship. They had never done so before, and they never have since. This seems odd, because rugby has always been a popular game in the county, the boundaries of which (whether you go by the old or the new ones) do not contain a single League football club.

The last time Somerset even reached the county semi-final was in 1953. I remember this match. I was a young and inexperienced radio commentator and it was the first time so important an occasion had been entrusted to me. I had to broadcast only the second half of the match, and I can tell you that, cocky young blighter though I was, I was very nervous. Somerset were playing Lancashire at Taunton. They were not expected to win, for Lancashire were a strong side, with Rimmer and Regan, both England players, at half-back. But they were expecting to give Lancashire a tough run.

Lancashire scored 19 points in the first half, and the match was effectively over before the broadcast began. In the second half they were content to sit on their lead, and the only score was a late penalty for Somerset. It rained. I may have done feebler commentaries, but I hope not many. We had no box, and I was surrounded by disgruntled Somerset supporters who, with nothing to cheer, spent most of their time commenting on the commentator.

"Tell the truth, can't 'ee?" was the commonest adjuration. Every time I mentioned a Bristol player there was a boo, because it was thought, at least by Taunton people, that there were too many Bristol players in the Somerset side. No, not a comfortable afternoon.

The boundary between Somerset and Gloucestershire ran through Bristol, and despite the invention of Avon, still does for rugby purposes: but the preponderant parts of the city, including the ground of the Bristol club, is Gloucestershire's. Though Bristol have provided many players for Somerset, they are but grudgingly accepted as "natives". The great centre of Somerset rugby when they won that distant championship was Bridgwater.

In the 1925 edition of *Marshall*, D. R. Gent pointed out that Somerset had great good fortune in playing four of their five matches there in the winning year, including the last three. "It is not at all a good ground, and the accommodation leaves a lot to be desired, but it seems to bring out all the enthusiasm and skill that Somerset rugby possesses."

Somerset played there again this month against Middlesex, and demonstrated the point, but Bridgwater is no longer a regular rugby centre. The stands which just occasionally seethe with excitement are usually gaunt and forlorn. The club itself no longer ranks, nationally, as a senior one. Much the same is true of Weston-super-Mare, which was another bastion of the game.

They were the first club to play under floodlights, in 1882 against Clifton. Taunton has produced some good sides since the war, but they too are no longer a major force. All these and more are still vigorous clubs, with pleasant clubhouses, and I enjoy visiting them: but their great days are behind them, and it is difficult to see any change, with public interest now centred so much on a comparative handful of big clubs.

So Somerset rugby now depends very largely on Bath, and if Bath are strong, as at present, Somerset will be. There is often an advantage to a county side founded principally on one outstanding club, as we saw in all those Warwickshire/Coventry years. The oddity is that Bath is hardly in Somerset at all: even by the old boundaries, it was edging into Wiltshire.

It is a handicap to Somerset, in more than a sporting sense, that it has no natural centre. Taunton, the county town, is only a few miles from Devon. Yeovil is almost in Dorset. The county town should have been Wells or Glastonbury, but geographical considerations, and consequent decisions of the rail and road planners, ruled otherwise.

So a Bath-based county side does not arouse quite such county-wide enthusiasm as it should, and though there will be ample ardour when Yorkshire come there, it will not provide the passionate, ferocious élan of Bridgwater in 1923. Nevertheless, it has been a stirring season, both for Bath (I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw them beat Neath 67-0) and for Somerset. Even if they lose, they have gone further in the competition than for more than 30 years.

And if they win on Saturday, and should play Gloucestershire in the final... Gloucestershire would win if the match was at Kingsholm, Somerset would if it was at Bridgwater. Even at Twickenham it should be an occasion, and I dare say more than several of us from the west would make the journey.

Alan Gibson

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Garnett College, Downshire House, Roehampton Lane, LONDON SW15 4HR. Tel: 01-789 6533.
The Polytechnic, Huddersfield, Holly Bank Road, Lindley, HUDDERSFIELD HD3 3BP. Tel: 0484 25611
Wolverhampton Polytechnic, Faculty of Education, Castle View, DUDLEY DY1 3HR. Tel: 0384 59741.

Please send further details and an application form for a one-year course to train as a lecturer. I enclose a stamped addressed reply envelope.

My subject specialism is ______

NAME ______

ADDRESS ______

REF T

CITY OF LONDON

Ceremonial Assistant

A vacancy will occur for a Ceremonial Assistant in the Remembrancer's Office of the Corporation of London on 29th February, 1984. The duties of the office involve the detailed organisation of all ceremonial functions at which the Corporation is host at Guildhall and the Mansion House, including State and other banquets, and in particular the carrying out of the arrangements necessary for the Lord Mayor's Procession and Banquet each year.

Candidates should have a flair for ceremonial and a knowledge of protocol. They should be able to deal at a senior level with the Offices of State and Diplomatic Missions. The ability to work under pressure and sustain meticulous attention to detail is also a necessary attribute.

The salary of the appointment is £9,660 per annum, rising by four annual increments to a maximum of £10,761 per annum. There is, in addition, a London Weighting allowance of £1,377 per annum.

Application forms can be obtained from the Remembrancer, Corporation of London, P.O. Box 270. Guildhall, London, EC2P 2EJ (Telephone: 01-606 3030 Ext. 2202). Completed application forms should be returned by no later than 16th December 1983.

PERSONNEL MANAGER

We are a charity concerned with the employment and education of the blind. We operate a sheltered engineering workshop, administer homeworkers and run a school for visually handicapped children.

We are seeking a Personnel Manager to be based at our Kilburn HQ, liaising where necessary with our School in Kent. Day-to-day duties will primarily involve the workshop and administrative areas (approx. 90 empa).

The jobholder will be responsible to the Secretary-General for the full range of personnel procedures and policies, including recruitment, wage and salary administration and industrial relations. He or she will be responsible for catering and will liaise with the Works Manager on safety. An important feature of the job is the welfare role in respect of blind employees.

Applicants should have at least 5 years' general personnel experience, preferably gained in a manufacturing environment.

Preferred age range 30-50.

Please send C.V. with details of current salary or ring for an application form to: Diana Reynolds, Personnel Manager, The Royal London Society for the Blind, 105 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RH. Tel: 01-624 8844.

Inner London Education Authority

SENIOR EDUCATION SAFETY ADVISERS (3 posts)

Salary Range: £11,053-£12,588 plus £1,284 London Weighting Allowance

The person appointed will be responsible to the Principal Safety Adviser for health and safety advisory duties covering approximately one third of ILEA establishments. Candidates must be professionally qualified or have extensive experience of safety in the field of education.

Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Education Officer (EO/Estab 1B), Room 365, the County Hall, London SE1 7PB. Please enclose an SAE.

Closing date for the return of completed applications is 15 December,1983.

These posts are suitable for job sharing.

ILEA is an equal opportunities employer.

AFRICA CENTRE

Director General

The Council of Management of the Africa Centre seeks a successor to the present Director General. Suitable candidates will already know something of the work of the centre – a unique educational, cultural and social centre founded in 1962. The post calls for a rare combination of skills and capacities: to manage a small, friendly, "club-like" institution with its own catering and bar facilities; to direct a balanced programme of cultural and topical items, serving as a bridge between people from Africa who are in Britain and British people – with a special interest in Africa; to work with and for the Multi-National Committee which controls the centre; to raise funds for its operations; and generally to develop the Centre's work, influence and responsiveness to contemporary Africa.

Salary £11,000 p.a.

Further particulars from Director General, letters of application with C.V. and naming two referees by January 3, 1984, to APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE, AFRICA CENTRE, 38 KING STREET, LONDON, WC2E 8JT.

UNA International Service

THIRD WORLD VACANCIES

West Bank:	Computer Programmer, Occupational Therapist Social Researcher, Kindergarten Adviser.
Brazil:	Audiovisual Technician, Veterinary Agronomist.
Bolivia:	Tropical Agronomist, Documentalist.
Cape Verde	Physiotherapist.
Upper Volta:	Agriculturist.
Mali:	Public Health/Sanitation Workers, Social Researcher.

Serve for two years minimum on basic salary with all costs covered. Language tuition etc. Details from UNAIS, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1, Quoting REF/T1 and specific vacancy.

University of Salford

DEPUTY ENGINEER (Systems Operation)

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Engineer (Systems Operation). In the Estates and Buildings Division of the Registrar's Department. Applicants must be Chartered Electrical Engineers and have experience in the management of building services for a large complex. Experience in the operation of a computerised energy management system will be an asset. Salary will not be less than £11.160 p.a.

Further particulars are available from the Registrar, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, to whom letters of application together with the names of two referees, should be be returned by 15 December 1983, quoting ref. number A/708. Or Telephone 061-736 5843. Ext 455.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Appear Each Thursday

For Further Information

Telephone Stanley Marek

on

01-837 1234 Ext 7593

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

DIRECTOR OF WORKS

The University wishes to appoint a successor to the present Director of Works, who is due to retire on 30th September 1984. This is a key management post in the University and will carry a commencing salary to be negotiated, but not less than £17,275 per annum.

The Director of Works is responsible for the planning and management of the University campus and for all aspects of capital and revenue expenditure relating to University property. Applicants should have relevant experience at a senior level and should possess a professional qualification appropriate to the duties of the post.

Further particulars and application forms from the Registrar. Closing date 6th January 1984.

Loughborough *Leicestershire*

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
FINANCIAL BOARD OFFICE

Administrative Assistant to take charge of the University's internal audit section.

Candidates should have experience of computer applications to financial accounting and will be expected to contribute to the further development and improvement of the University's accounting procedure. Preference would be given to a professionally qualified person. Scale of stipends. £8,975 to £11,615.

Applications with the names of 2 referees should be sent under confidential cover to: The Treasurer, at The Financial Board, The Old Schools, Cambridge, CB2 1TS to reach him not later than 14 Dec. 1983.

University of Birmingham

STAFF OFFICER

The University seeks applications for the post of Staff Officer to assume charge of the personnel function including industrial relations. Candidates should have proven experience in personnel administration and in trade union negotiation.

Salary in the region of £17,500 p.a. Superannuable.

Further particulars and application forms available from the Senior Assistant's Secretary, University of Birmingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT.

Closing date:
5th December,1983.

NUTRITION LECTURER

The Flour Advisory Bureau requires a Lecturer in its department of Home Economics and Nutrition Education. Applicants should have a degree in Nutrition or Food Science, a diploma in Dietetics or a teaching certificate or equivalent qualifications. This department provides a lecturing service throughout the United Kingdom on practical nutrition to a wide range of audiences.

Further details from Miss G. Niblock, Head of Department of Home Economics and Nutrition Education, The Flour Advisory Bureau Ltd, 21 Arlington St, London SW1A 1RN.

WARDEN

for
DURNING HALL, COMMUNITY CENTRE

which is part of Aston Charities Trust. It is the focal point of a large number of groups covering a host of activities, and incorporates residential accommodation for 50 persons of all ages. The Warden must have a strong capacity for caring as well as leadership and managerial ability.

The annual salary will be circa £12,000. A 3-bedroomed Flat is available at the Hall, but there is no absolute requirement to live-in.

Further information from:
JIMMY PROUD,
DURNING HALL, EARLHAM GROVE,
FOREST GATE, LONDON E7 9AB
(01-555 0142)

Closing date December 7.

ALONE IN LONDON SERVICE

DIRECTOR

To assume leadership of this rapidly expanding project providing advice, support and accommodation for the young, single and homeless.

Wide experience of social work, administration and fund raising for voluntary projects together with the ability to inspire and motivate are the main requirements.

Salary PO 1

For Job Description and Application Form
Telephone: 01-387 5184
Closing date for applications
9th December

Sales and Marketing Appointments

Our new Product Marketing Management will have the ultimate satisfaction of bringing up a whole new generation.

Walk into the offices of NCR these days and you will sense a new excitement. Listen carefully and you'll hear animated conversation on the theme of company growth.

This is no empty rhetoric.

Next year NCR will become the first company in the Data Processing industry to celebrate its centenary. Through all those years we've been growing by helping thousands of other companies do exactly the same.

Since the explosion of new technology we've grown even more, to become one of the world's largest companies in the development, manufacture and marketing of powerful business information systems.

Our commitment to the future is best expressed by a massive, on-going programme of new product development. Products which will help us to fully exploit both existing and new markets.

In just 18 months we have already developed from concept to manufacture the Tower 1632 (as illustrated) and the Decision Mate V– micro and personal systems with the potential to dominate their markets for a long time to come.

Standing just 29 inches high, the Tower is a powerful 16-bit processor based on an enhanced UNIX operating system with industry standard components and communications interfaces.

The Decision Mate V, our first venture into the personal computer market, also offers many industry standard features plus DECISION NET, a local area network for linking computers of varying makes into a communications resource-sharing network.

To quote our UK Chairman: *"NCR is poised to enter a new period of significant growth. Earlier this year we released significant new generation products which are acknowledged industry leaders – the Decision Mate V, the Tower 1632 and the 9300 32-bit mainframe – and there are many more to come next year. It is vital that we maximise their full market potential. We are looking for high volume markets... successful implementation of our new strategies demands that we increase the strength and effectiveness of our product marketing capability."*

Which is precisely why we're now looking for the professionals who are going to manage our new Product Marketing Division. People with an intimate knowledge of the personal computer, micro and office automation markets who have the imagination to formulate the strategies that will sell new products in large quantities. These are heavyweight marketing opportunities which call for energy, ambition and a successful track record in systems sales or marketing and experience at management level. There will be liaison with manufacturing plants in Japan, USA and Germany involving some travel to these areas.

Those who join us in these positions will not simply be coming here to 'do a job'. We will be looking upon them as the senior management of the future and rewarding them accordingly. Top level salaries and a company car will be offered, enhanced by a bonus incentive scheme. A non-contributory pension scheme is also part of the attractive package.

If you want to keep in step with the next generation, please write with full details of your career, quoting ref. T/24, to: Ann Winter, Personnel Manager, NCR Limited, 206 Marylebone Road, London NW1 6LY.

Marketing Support. The establishment of our new Product Marketing Division has also created superb opportunities for young marketeers to form back-up teams in support of the new management. The rewards offered will depend on age and experience, whilst the experience to be gained will be invaluable.

NCR
Complete computer systems

MARKETING MANAGER

ICC

c£12,000 + Car

ICC are the leading providers of company financial information to industry and commerce. Following extensive computer development ICC can now offer database facilities on-line to their clients.

A professional marketing manager is needed to promote and market these services.

We envisage the successful candidate to be a self motivated ambitious individual, aged under 35, either with qualifications in marketing and business studies or suitable previous experience.

Apply in confidence giving full details to
Miss Janet Hopson,
ICC Information Group,
81 City Road,
London, E.C.1

Marketing Director – Robotics

Evershed Robotics Limited are expanding their activities and wish to appoint a Marketing Director. The Company markets the Toshiba range of high quality robots in the UK and in Europe and considerable expansion is foreseen following the introduction of exciting new models in the New Year.

In addition to a positive track record marketing capital equipment, the successful applicant will have extensive experience in production engineering technology and will make a particular contribution to the essential engineering work associated with robot installations. Experience in robotics/special purpose machinery and a second language would be a positive advantage.

This senior position offers a five figure salary commensurate with the position, company car and all normal benefits.

Applications in confidence to the Managing Director,
EVERSHED ROBOTICS,
Bridge Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8LJ
Tel: (09328) 61181

Banking and Accountancy Appointments

Bookkeeper/ Accountant

International Petroleum Gas Trading Company seeks competent bookkeeper/accountant for its London office based in Mayfair. Applicants should be conversant with general bookkeeping, VAT, credit control and documentary credits. Familiarity with a DATA PROCESSOR would also be an advantage. £9,000 pa, 4 weeks holiday. Part time employment would also be considered.

Phone Alison on
01-409 3486

Market Development

A Senior Market Development Officer is required by the Zinc Development Association to work primarily on market development of Galvanized products.

The successful applicant will probably have a degree in engineering, metallurgy or chemistry; be between 25 and 35; have experience in the corrosion, protection industry, be able to write fluent reports; manage a promotional committee and travel in the British Isles to influence specifiers in direct contact discussions. Ability in foreign languages may be an advantage. The successful applicant will be based in London and will probably receive a salary between £8,000 and £11,000 p.a.

Please apply in writing initially to
Mr F. C. Porter
ZINC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
34, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AJ

CREDIT CONTROL MANAGER

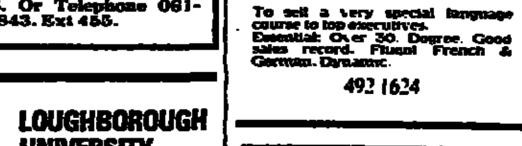
Solicitors

McKenna & Co are looking for a Credit Control Manager with experience of working in a large professional office and of using computers.

The right applicant will have initiative and tact in order to undertake this demanding job and will be supported by an assistant.

Please write to: E. D. WHITEHILL, GENERAL MANAGER, McKENNA & CO, INVERESK HOUSE, 1 ALDWYCH, LONDON WC2R 0HF

McKenna & Co
INVERESK HOUSE, 1 ALDWYCH LONDON, WC2R 0HF



SALE ORIENTED LINGUIST

To sell a very special language course to top executives.
Essential: Over 30. Degree. Good sales record. Fluent French & German. Dynamic.

492 1624

ADVERTISEMENT Sales Executive. First Class space sales person with proven ability and wide experience required to work on various publications. Excellent working conditions and ample opportunity to earn well. Must be well educated. Between 30 to 55 years and able to communicate effectively at Director level on telephone. Please telephone for interview 01-581 1597

URGENT

Secretarial/Assistant for Co, W1, 55wpm, A levels, age 20-22. Temp/permanent.
Sec/PA to Marketing Director, 100/60. Beautiful offices, Regents Park. Temp/permanent.
Ring Jo or Anne on
629 9863
Duke Street House,
415-417 Oxford Street,
London W1

KINGSWAY

SECRETARY 20+ required for Advertisement Controller newspaper group – Fleet Street area. Good English and pleasant telephone manner essential together with fast and accurate secretarial skills (100 50). Salary up to £7,000 p.a. Apply in writing to Advertisement Controller United Newspapers P.L.C. 23-27 Tudor Street, London EC4Y 0HR.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

WELLS CATHEDRAL SECRETARY

The Dean and Chapter intend to appoint for the first time a Cathedral Secretary, to be responsible for the administrative and accounting departments, with effect from September, 1984. Particulars upon application (no later than 31st December, 1983) To:

THE CHAPTER CLERK,
14 Market Place, Wells, Somerset

Super Secs

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

Required for the Technical support co-ordinator of this new expanding Japanese computer company. Applicants should have first class qualifications and be familiar with electronic typewriters and a word processing system in order to handle technical work.

Ability to work on own initiative essential. Age 21+ Salary c£6500 pa. 4 weeks holiday. Applications in writing with CV to:

Miss L. Russell
Fujitsu Europe Ltd
54 Jermyn Street
London SW1Y 6NQ

SAMI EL KHAZEN

Renowned Designer based in Paris & Beirut is setting up a subsidiary practice & showroom in Monte Carlo and is looking for: a Project Manager to liaise with his consultancy team; a qualified Sales Person with a knowledge of classic decoration; a High Quality Visualiser with experience in perspective, willing to be associated with this business. Excellent presentation & basic knowledge of French preferred. Please mail CV & documents to

Sami El Khazen
7 Rue Bude, Paris
75004 France.

MR L KHAZEN is also looking for an established company or person dealing in antiques interested in the consignment of goods.

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

London Handling is an incoming Tour Operator. We need a fluent French speaker to assist in the Group Travel Operations department. An ability to type is essential. Telephone 01-589 2212.

LIVE IN THE ALGARVE

Excellent opportunity for general office person experienced with good skills. Send CV to:
CLUBE PRAIA DA OURA,
Apartado 4, 8201 Albufeira,
Algarve, Portugal

AMERICAN LIVING LONDON W1

requires able Secretary PA with shorthand to deal with private correspondence, social arrangements, etc. Full-time appointment but only very light duties. Successful candidate will be intelligent, able to work on own, and a non-smoker. Salary £6,000+
For further details phone Sheila 353 2000 X 246.

MAYFAIR PROPERTY COMPANY

Our Director is looking for a bright and adaptable, well-groomed AUDIO SECRETARY to join our small, friendly office. This is a junior position requiring at least 1 year's experience.

Salary negotiable up to £6,500 p.a. Telephone: Sue Kerslake on 408 1677.

Telephonist/ Receptionist

For busy young architects in attractive new offices, Angel Islington. British Telecom Herald System Audio typing on word processor. Plenty of scope for individual initiative & flair. Salary £5,500-£6,000. Phone Laura Camora on 226 9708.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE URGENTLY REQUIRED

Confident shorthand secretary for busy and varied position in very pleasant offices. c.£6,500.

Tel 01 589 9600
(no agencies please)

PUBLISHING PA/SEC (100 50) for M.D WC2. 25-35 c£6,600. Chorfold Agy 938 1721

SENIOR APPOINTMENT PROPERTY

PA Secretary SW1

A senior appointment is made as PA Secretary to the Secretary of a leading professional body. Opportunity available to make a major contribution as member of a small team. Good secretarial skills and personality required. Salary negotiable.

Please apply in writing to the Secretary, Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, at 3 Cadogan Gate, London, SW1, not later than Friday 2 December

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR 25+ for summer language course organisers. Experience in office administration, ability to work on own initiative, good sec skills essential. Telex and working knowledge of Italian desirable. Salary negotiable. Apply with letter and cv to: AEST, 17 Glenhouse Stag Place, Palace Street London SW1

CAMBERWELL HEALTH AUTHORITY

King's College Hospital

ENT & X-RAY DEPARTMENT

SENIOR MEDICAL SECRETARY

Are you a Qualified Medical Secretary looking for a busy and responsible position? We require 2 SENIOR MEDICAL SECRETARIES with good organisational skills to work in our E.N.T. & X-Ray departments. Both are very busy and interesting posts and would suit experienced Secretaries with initiative and ability to supervise other Secretaries within the departments. Good shorthand and Audio skills are essential.

Salary £5,728 - £6,712 (inc)

Interested? Then contact Unit Personnel Department, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS. Tel 01-274 6222 Ext 2408

SLOANE RANGER TYPE P/A (late 20's) with basic sec skills, a good command of French and superb organising ability is needed by urbane snr ptnr of leading estate agents. c£9,000 01 730 5148 Jaygar Careers (Sloane Square) Ltd

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. £4,000 for 20+ yr old sec with interest in commercial law. good sh typ essential. W P and telex will be taught. Free lunch etc. 01 730 5148 Jaygar Careers (Sloane Square) Ltd

IN-HOUSE PR: Someone self-motivated (mid 20s) with some PR exp needed to promote expanding communications. £8,000 01 730 5148 Jaygar Careers (Sloane Square) Ltd

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هكذا من الأصل

General Appointments

2 INVESTMENT ANALYSTS EUROPE AND FAR EAST

Established Investment Institution in the City requires two Analysts, one for European Portfolio and one for Singapore and Hong Kong Portfolio, with relevant knowledge and experience.

Age preferably 25 plus. Good salary and benefits.

Candidates should apply with curriculum vitae to:

Box 1410 H The Times

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL requires two EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS for

1) Americas Research Department (principally USA and Carribbean).

2) Eastern Europe Research Department (Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia).

The Executive Assistant is primarily responsible for liaising with Amnesty International's adoption groups around the world to provide information relating to Amnesty International's human rights concerns in the area.

For both posts a good background knowledge of, and interest in, the area are required. For post 1) fluent Spanish is essential; for post 2) at least one relevant language is required. Fluent English is essential for both posts. Candidates must be able to type.

Salary £8,053.00 per annum (index-linked)

For a detailed job specification and application form send a large sae to the Personnel Department, Amnesty International, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ or ring 01-833 1771 ext 5144 or 5147. Please state clearly for which post you wish to apply.

Closing date for thereturn iof completed application forms: 31 December 1983.

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Circa £20,000 p.a. + 2 litre car

Maccess Limited (part of the Burmah Retailing & Distribution Division) is the leading Automotive Wholesale Cash and Carry supplying independent retailers. Stax, a developing subsidiary, supplies Home Improvement, Housewares and Garden products, again to the independent trade.

During the last nine years Maccess has developed at a rapid pace and in order to ensure that the development continues an appointment to the new position of Operations Director is to be made.

This position carries responsibility to the Chief Executive for directing the Cash and Carry Branch Operations within the agreed Marketing Plan, so that Sales, Profit and Return on Capital objectives are achieved.

Applicants must therefore have a successful track record in supervising large scale retail or wholesale chain operations.

Apply in complete confidence to:-

K. J. WIDDOWSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MACCESS LIMITED, CENTRAL ARCADE, CLECKHEATON, BD19 5DN. W. YORKSHIRE

EUROPEAN TOUR MANAGERS

Leading Tour Operator requires keen hardworking young people to train for our spring and summer tours:

ARE YOU
- Aged between 23-30.
- Fluent in one or more European language
- Well travelled in Europe
- Able to work under stress
- Neat and well presented
- Outgoing, Patient, Flexible good humoured and cheerful

If so please send written applications photo and CV to

Elizabeth Oswald
MARVEL TOURS
25 New Cavendish Street, London, W1

PRIVATE MEMBERS CLUB MANAGER

Required for new private members club in SW London opening before Christmas. The style and facilities will be similar to top West End clubs. The successful applicant must have had experience in this type of operation and will be responsible for establishing a venture membership and the profitability of the club. There will be a Carvery and a business lunchtime trade as well as the main evening function to be operated. This will be a permanent position and living accommodation will be provided. Applications should be submitted in writing giving details of age, marital status, personal details and experience and salary required. All applications to be submitted by December 5th.

Phone 769 1861
The Manager, 3 Rydal Road, Streatham, SW16

Super Secretaries

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Young, energetic Tory MP needs responsible, organized and self-motivated Secretary, he would prefer you to have had similar experience but his essential needs are good shorthand typing, confidence and the ability to handle correspondence. The hours are flexible, the work involving, the rewards are an office in Westminster and £7,500pa. Hendersons Recruitment. 370 5066

CHARMING Chartered Accountant £7,500+. One of the top partners is looking for a Sec PA to assist him with his client dealings on the taxation side. Varied job for someone with a sense of humour and good sec skills. Phone Desi Dillingham on 491 2876. Masterlock Emp Agy.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Designers. Permanent, temporary positions. AMSA Specialists Agency 01-734 0532.

DUTCH SPK PA. English s h for academic environment in central London. £7,300 + long hols. Merrow Emp Agy. 636 1487.

OPPORTUNITY for young personal Sec/Driver, well educated. Responsible varied job. Home abroad. C.V to: Box 1013L The Times.

SECRETARY REQUIRED Private dental partnership near Sloane Square, SW1. 730 2508.

EDUCATED young person required as trainee negotiator (with typing see appointments column).

GERMAN/ENGLISH PA bi-lingual Sh (some French) 21+. £7,000. Language Staff Agy. 465 8922.

THE DIRECTOR in charge of a busy department in Andre Deutsch needs a confident cheerful administrative assistant secretary. The work demands normal secretarial skills, but above all a real taste and enthusiasm for administration progress chasing etc. Salary negotiable. Please write with cv to. Priscilla Barlow. Andre Deutsch Ltd. 105 Great Russel St. London WC1 83LJ

NON-SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

RECEPTIONIST ABLE TO TYPE
For the salon of society Portrait Photographer in Mayfair. Mature person please hear all details on:
675 4927
JUST LISTEN. YOU DO NOT NEED TO SPEAK

RESIDENTIAL Negotiator required by Kensington estate agency. Enthusiasm, ability, and a minimum of two years' experience essential. Tel: Regal Estates, 603 7121.

GRADUATE with fluent German & a keen interest in soccer, sought for trainee post with tour company. To £6,000. R. J. Recruitment 493 6446.

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Double-glazing with a rose tint

Responsible salesmen are wanted to give a new image to the industry, writes Edward Fennell

Someone should commission a survey of readers of *The Times* to find out which careers they would least like to follow. Apart from its sociological interest it would also, perhaps, help industry to pinpoint some of the social taboos which cling to certain jobs. For example, there is little doubt that selling double-glazing would feature prominently in this Top Ten of bottom jobs.

The reputable members of the double-glazing industry resent being classified among the social untouchables. The telephone canvassers who ring at 10 pm and the hard-sell, foot-in-the-door cowboys are, they say, only the unrepresentative segment of a big industry. Indeed, after the boom in interest in double-glazing induced by the energy crisis of the 1970s the industry has now settled down. What is now required, it is claimed, are steady reliable members of the middle-class to come into double-glazing and *improve its credentials. Times* readers for example, would make excellent reps for some of the firms at the top end of the market.

This may not be too far-fetched. For certain kinds of people – self-starters, well organized, with an easy social manner – selling double-glazing can offer the satisfaction of earning a reasonable income while being free of overbearing supervision. For some middle-ranking executives who have found themselves at the wrong end of a management shake-out this kind of selling could offer a way back into running their own show and exercising their initiative and energy.

"We are short of the right calibre field sales staff," says Cameron Robertson, the marketing director of Zenith Windows, part of the Bowater Group. Many suitable candidates steer clear of the job because of its tarnished image. So firms like Zenith, while recruiting, only exceptionally come up with the right sort of person. "It is just over 10 per cent who get through our selection procedure", says Robertson. "We are going to invest quite a lot of money in their training before they go out on the road, so we need to make sure that we are backing the right people. As it is, and despite the rigorous selection, only seven out of ten make it through the training-course."

It is reckoned that competent double-glazing sales staff working for good firms earn about £14,000 a year. So, for people looking for a new direction there is a clear appeal to the work so long as you use your discretion.

Being circumspect about who to work for probably means:

- Excluding firms which are too keen, too quick to take you on (if they are casual about selecting their staff they will probably be casual about everything else.
- Checking out the training which is provided – if it is only a couple of days it is not likely to be very good – a week or more should be the minimum.
- Discovering the arrangements for displaying products – ideally they should have a showroom open to the public.
- Finding out what kind of sales support you will have – if it is purely "cold canvassing" then be careful; it is much better to follow up replies to advertisements passed on from head office or enquiries to the showroom.
- What exactly is the management structure? Will you sink or swim on you own or will there be advice and help from management?

If you follow these guidelines and have the right kind of personality then it could be a good break. Ex-RAF and Army officers, for example, are claimed to be particularly adept. Maybe it's a sign that the British public still knows a gentleman when it sees one.

Training for youth work

Would-be trainees should get in their applications, says Elisabeth Baker

Youth clubs are now taking on a more important role, at a time when many young people's needs are not being met, either in schools or with jobs. Some of these clubs are stepping in with lessons in reading, writing, and training for job interviews, and some are staying open throughout the day to give unemployed youngsters somewhere to spend their time.

"This started because we found young people standing outside the clubs when they were closed", said Reggie Davis, London administrative officer of the National Association of Youth Clubs, "so we felt we had to open the doors and let them in to have somewhere to go".

There is also a dramatic increase in membership of under-14s, who now make up a third of the near-million national membership, and this has created problems because juniors (who can be anything down to five years old) require very different handling to seniors – and workers have not been geared to this in the past.

So the organizations which provide training are anxious to recruit and are now taking applications for September 1984, for 200 to 250 places on certificate courses.

A two-year full-time initial training course for those aged 21 to 40 (average age 29) is offered at 12 different colleges in England and Wales. These include Goldsmiths in London, Manchester and Leicester Polytechnics and the North-East Wales Institute at Wrexham. Courses are endorsed by the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, but the Youth Work Training Agencies Staff Group (YWTASG) coordinates the work of these institutions. Some of these training agencies ask for five O-levels, and some do not – but all prefer those with previous voluntary or part-time experience in youth work.

Grants are at the local authorities' discretion, but "most authorities are sympathetic towards giving grants for youth training", says Don Grisbrook, director of the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, "although there may be pressure to attend a college near home", he adds.

Many of the institutes which offer initial training also offer "in-service" training, for those with a qualification and some experience. For example a two-year graduate Diploma in Community Education is run at Leicester Polytechnic one day-a-week by Terry Willits, chairman of the YWTASG. Subjects include sociology, psychology, management, social policy, administration and "working-with-people skills".

In addition, there are five colleges offering Bachelor of Education degrees, a new four-year sandwich degree course at Brunel University, and "distance learning" courses at the YMCA and North-east London Polytechnic. Forty-five per cent of the 500 to 600 new recruits are likely to be qualified teachers at present, but this will change in December 1988, as the training authorities would prefer, it seems, to give automatic eligibility to those with special training such as a certificate, diploma, or BEd in youth work.

It seems clear that this is an important and constructive field where workers find themselves able to help solve the difficulties and the bitterness sometimes felt by the young in these recessionary times. However, training authorities are anxious to emphasize that keeping kids off the street is not their basic aim. The 1982 Thompson report on the Youth Service in England defines that aim as providing "programmes of personal development – comprising . . . social and political education". Nevertheless, the youth service is clearly trying to provide a sensitive response to the needs of youngsters and, with 1985 designated as International Year of Youth, the National Association of Youth Clubs says it is planning to do everything it can to bring the situation of young people to public attention, in the hope that it will help improve the quality of young lives.

Enquiries to the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, Wellington House, Wellington Street, Leicester LE1 6HL (Tel: 0533 555666).

BRITISH ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

We are looking for a graduate to fill and develop this new position in our Association Management skills, knowledge of law and finance, draughting of memoranda and submission to official bodies; ability to work with doctors as well as lay people is essential. Salary will be in the range £7,000 – £9,000 according to experience.

Write to the Honorary Secretary of the British Orthopaedic Association at the Royal College of Surgeons, Lincolns Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

Closing date for applications 15th December 1983.

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING SALES

American financial magazine seeks dynamic salesperson to join its growing international sales team in London.

University degree and proficiency in German required.

Previous sales experience preferred but not required. Knowledge of finance helpful.

Excellent salary plus bonus.

Christine Cavolina
EUROPEAN DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
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14 James Street, London WC2
Tel 01-379 7511

Institutional Executive

Required to join Middle Eastern unit in U.S. Brokerage firm. Must have proven contacts with major institutions in Middle East as well as being familiar with U.S., European, Japanese and Far Eastern markets. Must speak fluent Arabic and English.

Salary negotiable.

Reply Box 1409H The Times

RECRUITMENT

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We are an expanding specialist recruitment company wishing to meet capable people with potential. Recruitment experience is needed, any field will be considered.

We are also interested in meeting senior recruitment people with sound business propositions.

All replies treated as confidential
PHONE M.D. 01-435 4574, or 458 9188 after 7 p.m.

DESIGN TRAINEE

The Sterling Armament Company Limited, suppliers of the Sterling Submachine Gun and other Military Weapons to the British Army and 90 foreign Armies and Police Forces, have a vacancy in their Design Department.

We are looking for a young, recent graduate from Design School with an interest in military firearms to train under our present Chief Designer.

Applications in strictest confidence to the Managing Director, Sterling Armament Company Limited, Sterling Works, Rainham Road South, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8ST.

BURSAR ST ANTONY'S COLLEGE University of Oxford

Early in 1984 the College will appoint a successor to the present Bursar on his retirement.

The College is a post-graduate college of international character. The Bursar is a Fellow of the College and a member of its Governing Body and is responsible to the Governing Body for the general management of the College.

For further particulars, apply to the Warden's Secretary, St Antony's College, Oxford. (Tel: Oxford 57421).

MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR POWDER COATING OPERATION

Situated at Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire. The position requires a person with proven management expertise in the same or allied industry. Business ability vital. Remuneration £20,000 – £25,000 for top person.

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Apply in writing to Mr F. W. Cook, White Seal, 2 Ash Tree Lane, Chatham, Kent. (A member of the Ward Holdings PLC Group).

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Sarah Warner
01-834 4771
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PUBLICITY DIRECTOR BOOK PUBLISHING

Sphere Books is the paperback publishing subsidiary of the International Thomson Organisation. Catering for the UK and world markets, the company publishes under its three imprints a broad spectrum of books in paperback form, from mass-market titles through serious contemporary fiction and non-fiction to educational and reference books.

Sphere is seeking to appoint a Publicity Director to take overall responsibility for the promotion of the company, its imprints, books and authors through public relations activity, sales promotion and consumer and trade advertising. Based in our Head Office in Holborn, the successful candidate will be expected to formulate corporate and product promotional strategy and to oversee the implementation of creative and effective promotions for a varied and interesting product range.

Proven management and communication skills and a record of demonstrable success at a senior level in a relevant or comparable marketing environment are essential pre-requisites for this appointment. Additionally, applicants should possess the strength of character, energy, ideas and leadership which will enable them to join our successful and dynamic management team and contribute to the development of one of the UK's fastest-growing book publishers.

For this key appointment we will provide a salary and benefits fully commensurate with the high level of responsibility that this position commands within a large international organisation.

Please write with full personal and career details to:
Michael Goldsmith, Managing Director, Sphere Books Limited, 30-32 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8JL.

SPHERE

General Manager Designate

Carbide Wear Parts Industry c. £15K + Car. Essex.

Carboloy (Wear Parts Division) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the The General Electric Company of America. The division machines precision components in tungsten carbide for a wide range of industrial applications. The management style of the company is one of unit autonomy and the successful candidate will be capable of running a total business unit comprising the manufacturing, selling, commercial and technical functions. You will be a professional manager with a technical and commercial awareness that will enable you to run a business with flair and with a heavy emphasis on the bottom line. Experience of the carbide wear parts business is preferable but not essential. Preferred age range is mid thirties – mid forties. You will report to the General Manager (Carboloy Europe).

Please write summarising your career to date to, **F. Insdale, Group Personnel Manager, CARBOLOY LIMITED, Sharpenhoe, Bedford MK45 4SP.**

TIE

Leading U.S. Manufacturer of Telecommunications Systems requires the following personnel for its rapidly expanding U.K. Operation based in S.E. England:

ACCOUNTANT

Aged 35+, the Candidate will be well qualified and have several years' accounting experience.

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Aged 35+, the candidate will have a technical sales background, ideally in electronic PABX systems, small computers or telecommunications related activities.

The Company is also opening an office in Manchester and requires:

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The Candidate will have previous experience in general office administration.

A professional approach and proven track record is required for these positions. The Candidates can expect a substantial salary together with an excellent benefits package.

Applications in strictest confidence to Managing Director:
TIE/Communications UK Ltd.
66 Guildford Street,
Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9DA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: THE BRITISH LIBRARY

The British Library was established in 1973 to provide the best possible central library and information service for the United Kingdom. It has become one of the world's foremost centres for reference, study, and bibliographic and other information services, and also carries out and sponsors research. Its comprehensive collections of books, manuscripts, periodicals, sound recordings and other material are housed in several buildings in London and one in Boston Spa, Yorkshire.

Sir Harry Hookway, Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of the British Library Board, is to retire on 1 September 1984 and a man or woman of outstanding ability is sought to succeed him. The successful candidate will be selected well before that date and it is hoped to make arrangements which will allow the person appointed to gain some familiarity with the wide-ranging duties of the post, which include day-to-day management, financial control, and the formulation and development of policies.

Candidates, preferably aged under 55, must demonstrate proven managerial competence of a high order. They will be expected to have had substantial administrative responsibility at a senior level in a public, academic, commercial or industrial organisation. Experience in librarianship or information science could be an advantage.

Salary: £34,250 from January 1984.

The appointment will be for a fixed period of 5-7 years and may be renewed. It is based in London.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 14 December 1983) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6383/1.

BL

"Translations Controller"

Well-known Translation/Linguistic Company in W.1. seeks a Languages Controller to join small team. At least 5 years related experience in commerce or industry essential. Duties involve telephone liaison with clients and translators, processing of texts for translation and general administration. Must be confident, articulate and able to work under pressure. Knowledge of advertising, printing or publishing an advantage. Languages degree or equivalent plus good shorthand and typing speeds. Basic salary £6,000 p.a. plus LVs, PPP, travelling expenses, bonus schemes. Immediate vacancy. Please write with CV to Box No 2296 G The Times.

INTERVIEWERS

Interviewers, aged 21 to 60, required for part-time temporary survey work at Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton Airports, February to July 1984. Approximately two 7½ hour shifts per week, £3.20 to £3.50 per hour. Also a SUPERVISOR at Heathrow and Gatwick. Approximately £4 to £5 per hour. Market research experience preferred. Please apply in writing giving details of age, experience, qualifications and family commitments, airports applied for, and telephone number to:–

CAA Surveys, Room T416,
CAA House, 45-59
Kingsway, London WC2 6TE.

Closing date for applications: 2 December 1983.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to:

THE TIMES
200 Gray's Inn Road
London
WC1X 8EZ

or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon. (837 3333 only). For publication the following day, phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page, £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (i.e. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime 'phone number.

"... (Jesus said:) Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." St. John 15: 3.

BIRTHS

ALLEN on November 20th to Janet (nee Holt) and Christopher a son Nicholas James.

BRAMBLE – On November 21 to Judy (nee Rodley) and Jimmy, a son, James Edward.

FRENCH – On November 22, at Cardiff, to Piers and Gillian, a son, [illegible].

FURLONG – On November 25, in Hong Kong, to Penny and John, a daughter, Laura Constance.

HAYES – On November 19th in Gloucester Royal Maternity, to Anne and Paul a daughter Holly, sister to Kozmo.

HICKS. – On October 24th, to Sally and Ian, a son, Richard Ian James. [illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS

House to accommodate family of 10. Maidstone or Rustington area. Impeccable references.

01-405 8694 office.
0622 39443 home.

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invites you to join him in supporting the work of Arthritis Care, the only charity devoted solely to the welfare and rehabilitation of arthritis sufferers. Your donation will help someone to lead a fuller, more independent life.

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Dept. T83, 6 Grosvenor Cres., London SW1.

DEAR CHARLOTTE
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Love Caroline

FOR THE MAN AT THE TOP whose English isn't. Expert private sessions in pronunciation, public speaking and social customs. Tel 01-730 2623.

DON'T GET MAD, GET EVEN! by Alan Abel in all good booksellers now. £3.95 Published by Sidgwick & Jackson.

ENGLISH TUITION. Cambridge graduate, EFL Cert. teaches in SW1 or visits pupil. Tel 01-828 1683.

YOUNG ENGLISHMAN living Northern France, commuting London frequently offers help with business transport tourism property. Anything considered. Large car available. Box 1479 H. The Times.

LOST IN INDIA. TV producer, research programme, would like to talk [illegible]

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CHRISTMAS ABROAD

[illegible]

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RENTALS

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Spacious furnished family house o'lkg the River Thames from front of house with good sized gdn at back. 3 dble, 2 sgle beds, 2 baths (1 en-suite), 48ft dble recep, fld kit, playrm, gdn rm. Available now for 1-2yrs. £400 per week.

RUTLAND GATE, SW7
Spacious flat in p b blk o'lkg this quiet Square in Knightsbridge. 2 dble 1 sgle, beds, 2 baths, (1 en-suite), large dble recep, fld kit, grge space could be available. Available now for 1-3 yrs.

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CHESTERTONS
01-937 7244

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HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB pretty 3 bed cottage. CH. 1 yr £135pw 455 3111.

WANTED. Small flat central London. [illegible]

RENTALS

KEITH CARDALE GROVES
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Spectacular 3rd floor flat in fine block overlooking Regents Park. 2 receptions, kitchen/breakfast room, study, 5, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, [illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION.
No. 005577 of 1983

In the Matter of FEDERATED POTTERIES COMPANY Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the ORDER of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 7th November 1983 confirming the cancellation of a) £1,211,207 of the sums standing to the credit of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company and b) the whole of the sum of £1,172,160 standing to the credit of the Capital Redemption Reserve of the said Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 10th November 1983.

Dated this 24th day of November 1983.
BISCHOFF & CO.
7th Floor, City Wall House, 79/83 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4TJ.
Solicitors for the above-named Company

In the Matter of TU-WAY CARGO Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 21st day of December, 1983, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Keith David Goodman FCA of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 16th day of November 1983.
K. D. GOODMAN
Liquidator.

Any person with debts owing to or from, or who is in possession of any deposit made by, the late

GERRIT JOHANNES VAN DER PLOEG,

born 13 September 1924, last residing at 74 Culverley Road, Catford, London, United Kingdom, but domiciled at Bergse Dorpsstraat 6, Rotterdam, Kingdom of the Netherlands, died in London on 27 February 1975, whose estate has been accepted without liability beyond the assets descended, is requested to lodge details with Notaris Mr. C. C. J. van Rietschoten (Kantoor Lubbers en Dijk Notarissen), Koningslaan 4, 1075 AC Amsterdam; not later than 31 December 1983.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1983-84
ASSOCIATED BRITISH PORTS

NOTICE is hereby given that application is being made to Parliament in the present Session by Associated British Ports for leave to introduce a Bill under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

1. Construction of the following works:–
In the county of Devon in the City of Plymouth: Work No. 1. A reclamation and filling in of the north-eastern corner of the Outer Basin at Plymouth (Millbay) Docks, together with a wall.

2. Acquisition of lands and easements or rights over lands in the area aforesaid of the proposed works. Extinction of private rights of way over the lands to be acquired and special provisions as to compensation.

3. Special provisions in connection with the construction of the proposed works and provision for the extension, enlargement, alteration, replacement or relaying thereof. Provision for subsidiary works in connection with the proposed works. Application of existing byelaws, rules and regulations at Plymouth Docks (Millbay) to Work No. 1.

4. Incorporation and application, with or without amendment, of certain provisions of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845, the Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847, the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and the British Transport Docks Acts of 1964, 1966, 1969 and 1971.

5. Continuance in force in their application to Associated British Ports until 1st January 1988 of the provisions of section 54 (Powers of police as to search and arrest) of the British Transport Commission Act 1949.

And notice is further given that a plan and sections of the proposed works, including a plan of the lands proposed to be acquired or used compulsorily, together with a book of reference to such plan, have been deposited for public inspection with the Chief Executive, Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter, EX2 4QD, and with the Chief Executive and Town Clerk, Plymouth City Council, Civic Centre, Royal Parade, Plymouth, PL1 2EW.

On and after the 2nd day of December 1983 a copy of the Bill for the intended Act may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of 60p for each copy at the offices of the undermentioned Solicitor and Parliamentary Agents and the office of the Port Manager, Port Office, Millbay Docks, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 3EF.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it. If the Bill originates in the House of Commons the latest date for depositing such a Petition in that House will be the 30th January 1984; if it originates in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in that House will be the 6th February 1984. Further information may be obtained from the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments in the House of Lords, the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons or the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated this 24th day of December 1983.

R. V. PEARCE
Associated British Ports
Melbury House
Melbury Terrace
London NW1 6JY
Solicitor

SHERWOOD & CO
Queen Anne's Chambers
3 Dean Farrar Street
Westminster
London SW1H 9LG
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21-28 years to assist young solicitor, newly appointed to develop company and commercial department. You should have a good telephone manner and a sense of humour. Pleasant working conditions in modern offices close to Chancery Lane Tube station. Salary £7,000 pa.
For application form ring: Mrs Sylvia Huntley on: 01-831 6981.

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Office Manager,
MAC (UK) Ltd
62 Grosvenor St, W1X 9DA
closing date 2nd December

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Excellent linguistic skills and first class secretarial skills (100wpm English sh, slower French sh & fast typing) deserve the kind of prestige and salary offered by this position in the European head office in Mayfair of this enormous firm of American Investment Bankers. As PA to the President the range of your undertakings will be extensive:- from recruitment for secretarial and tempory personnel, to the composition of your own correspondence, plus of course, handling all your boss's private affairs.
A Legal, Banking or Broking background is requisite, as is the right temperament: warm, understanding and able to cope with people and their problems. Call Jan Sanderson 01-439 8311 for further details.
St Paul's Employment Agency

PA/SECRETARY
required for Manager Sales and Marketing department of expanding building contractors and developers in Fulham. Varied, interesting work, plenty of involvement. Well educated, speeds 100/60 shorthand/typing, some audio. Age 25+.
Free lunch, 5 weeks holiday.
Ring Sally Prevost on 736 7133

FASHION PR COMPANY
Requires Secretarial/PA (non smoker), 25+ with excellent shorthand & typing skills plus a knowledge of telex, capable of working under pressure & with good organisational ability. Salary negotiable according to age & experience.
Contact Sandra on 01-836 7076

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The lot: mail-selling, invoicing, writing to authors, arranging shipments abroad – all on a word processor. Share my office and be as involved in the business as I am. "A" levels or degree, good English, initiative and the ability to work very hard all essential. Interview now but start on 9 January '84. Ring Richard Price on 01-262 1114.

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Focus on The Times Classified

هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information service, available on every television set.

6.30 Breakfast Time: with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. Today's special items include Breakfast Time doctor (between 8.30 and 9.00) and the Glynn Christian food and cookery item (also between 8.30 and 9.00). Other regular items include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 8.30; sport at 6.40 and 8.40; and today's papers at 7.18 and 8.18.

9.00 Mastermind: A second screening of the contest involving Moray Knox-Crawford, Ian Fisher, Margaret Peet and Tom Strivens (r); 9.30 Closedown.

10.30 Play School: Edward Lear's story The Quangle Wangle's Hat; 10.55 Closedown.

12.30 After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale; 12.57 Financial Report. And sub-titled news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Howard Franklin, the floral expert, with more ideas and advice about arranging nature's gifts; 1.45 Postman Pat (r).

2.00 Film: Magic Town (1947*) James Stewart stars in this romantic comedy as the opinion pollster who discovers a small town that reflects an entire nation's opinion. Co-starring Jane Wyman as a newspaper woman. *Director:* William A. Wellman.

3.40 Happy Harmony: cartoon from MGM; 3.45 Play School: It's Thursday; 4.20 Mighty Mouse: cartoon; 4.25 Jackanory: Jane Asher reads more pages from The Railway Children (r); 4.40 *Spider-Man and his Amazing Friends:* cartoon; 5.05 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter: More about the campaign to help the world's victims of flood and drought.

5.40 Sixty Minutes: The line-up is: – news (5.40), regional magazines (5.53), weather (6.15) and closing headlines (6.38).

6.40 Angels: More about the anti-vivisection demonstration *outside the drugs factory.*

7.05 Tomorrow's World: Science and technology for everyone. Tonight's edition includes items on the electric cooker, heated by hot light-bulb, as easily controlled as gas; a modern, scientific approach to the ancient skill of making violins; and a way of predicting earthquakes more accurately by measuring gravity.

7.30 Top of the Pops: with Simon *Bates and Richard Skinner.* A live edition.

8.05 Wildlife on One: Last Stronghold of the Eagles. A film about the threat to the bald eagle. There are 3,000 pairs of them in the wilderness of southeast Alaska, but loggers are at work, and that is bad news for the bird that is the national emblem of the United States.

8.30 Only Fools and Horses: Del *(David Jason) plans a fishing* trip to the country as part of his latest money-making plan.

9.00 News: with Sue Lawley.

9.25 Johnny Jarvis: Episode 3. Johnny is picked up by a girl called Pauline (Sarah London) and Alan is badly frightened by the Colonel (Nick Stringer). With Mark Farmer as Johnny, and Ian Sears as Alan.

10.15 Question Time: On the platform tonight with Sir Robin Day are *Ian Gow, the* Environment Minister; John Smith MP; John Pardoe, former MP; and Diana Rocklidge, of the Equal Opportunity Commission who is also a leading businesswoman.

11.15 Phil Silvers: Another Sergeant Bilko story*; 11.40 News headlines.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Today's special items include farming 6.50 Flora Hire 7.35 Money Talks 7.45 Film Review 8.35 and Cookery 9.02 Morning papers reviewed at 6.25 sport at 6.35, 7.35 and 8.30 and news bulletins at 6.30 then half-hourly until 8.30.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools Toy Factory; 9.42 Sensitivity; 9.59 The wonders of Kew Gardens; 10.16 English village ceremonies; 10.33 A-level physics; 10.50 Judaism; 11.08 Basil Brush; 11.22 A Day Out; 11.39 The Laws of Motion physics in action.

12.00 Teetime and Claudia repeated at 4.00; 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid (r); 12.30 The Sullivans: Australian/wartime S family drama serial.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 A plus: Report from New York, on Thanksgiving Day. Gill Nevill talks to British expatriate writer Linda Blandford; the city's deputy major; and a political high-flyer, Carol Bellamy.

2.00 Take the High Road: Scottish estate serial; 2.30 Something *In Disguise: final episode of* this dramatization of the Elizabeth Jane Howard novel. May (Ursula Howells) makes a new will (r). 3.30 Sons and Daughters: episode 7. John contemplates returning to Melbourne to find a murderer.

4.00 Children's ITV: Teetime and Claudia (r); 4.15 Dangermouse: episode 4 of The return of Count Duckula (r); 4.20 First Post: Viewers' letters answered by Sue Robbie; 4.35 Rapid Rabbit and Brown Fox: Cartoon; 4.45 *Home: drama serial, set in an* Australian community welfare home; 5.15 The Young Doctors: Australian hospital drama series.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.25 Thames Sport: with Steve Rider and Simon Reed.

6.50 Knight Rider: An extortionist threatens to blow up a city unless a certain prisoner is released. The threat causes Michael Knight (David Hasselhoff) to go undercover as a prisoner.

7.45 Film: Arthur Hailey's Hotel: Substantial appetizer for next week's drama series based on Hailey's multi-characterd novel about the staff and guests at a San Fancisco hotel run with characteristic firmness by Bette Davis. With James Brolin, Connie Sellecca, Shea Farrell and, as himself, Mel Torme.

9.30 TV Eye Is it really true that Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, commits its planes and staff to spying? TV Eye investigates the allegation.

10.00 News at Ten. And Thames *news headlines.*

10.30 The Sweeney: Regan (John Thaw) uncovers a multi-thousands pound car parking fraud while involved in a routine surveillance of one of the notorious Smith brothers (r).

11.30 Film: The Quatermass Experiment (1955) Science fiction thriller, with some genuinely worrying moments, about the awful things that *happen to the only surviving* member of the crew of an experimental rocket that crash-lands in a Berkshire village. With Brian Donlevy, Jack Warner and (as the vegetable-man) Richard Wordsworth. *Director: Val* Guest.

12.55 Night Thoughts: from the Rev Dr Charles Elliott.

Sam Neil as Mr Gentleman and Maeve Germaine as Kate in Edna *O'Brien's The Country Girls* (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

● Two policies of insurance were taken out to protect THE COUNTRY GIRLS (Channel 4, 9.30pm) from misfortune. The first was getting Edna O'Brien to make her own adaptation of her autobiographical first novel. The second, no less important, was to entrust the direction to Desmond Davis. You *have only to think back to films such* as *The Girl with Green Eyes,* made 20 years ago, and *I Was Happy Here,* made two years later, to know the depth and breadth of the artistic affinity that exists between Mr Davis and the Ireland and Irish of Miss O'Brien's books. Mr Davis has again done Miss O'Brien proud with *The Country Girls,* though some may count it as a minor minus that even he has not been able to eliminate our awareness that what we are watching is a filmed book, faithfully reproduced, instead of a re-interpretation that makes use of the visual and structual devices

CHOICE

peculiar to film-making. I should have said that four, not two, insurance policies were taken out to ensure a smooth passage from page to screen for *The Country Girls.* The other two were the *casting of Maeve Germaine and Jill* Doyle as the rural childhood chums for whom Dublin is lying in wait, ready and able to provide instant and sobering maturity. Here are the twin polarities of youth, innocence and wickedness, perfectly incarnated in two remarkable young actresses.

● SINGING SONGS OF WHALES AND THINGS (BBC 2, 7.10pm), a modest addition to the *Open Door* canon of "community" (i.e. human interest) films, is worth 35 minutes of anybody's time, as indeed most of the films are. It is an account of a Kentish invasion of traditional Welsh territory – the annual miners' male voice choir competition. The Kent Davids who take on the Welsh Goliaths are singers from the Snowdown Colliery, stoutly reinforced by the likes of a police sergeant and the captain of a cross-channel ferry. Considering that most *of them do not read music,* the Snowdown songbirds chirp to good effect in rehearsal, and they make the coach journey to Porthcawl in optimistic spirits. The fate they meet there is a matter of public record, but tonight's little film reveals the untold drama behind the adjudicator's verdict.

● GARLAND FOR A HOAR HEAD, John Arden's play about the vituperative versifier John Skelton deserved to be repeated and tonight (Radio 3, 7.30) it is. Sixteenth century setting; twentieth century dialogue; and Freddie Jones (as Skelton) at his considerable best.

BBC 2

9.15 Daytime on Two The day's educational programme line-up is: 9.15 Dicho y hecho: Spanish lesson; 9.33 Alles klar: German lesson; 9.52 Talkabout; 10.12 Science Workshop; 10.34 Why Prejudice?; 11.05 Farming the Hills; 11.30 Castles of Wales; 11.55 Swim (fitness); 12.20 Propaganda with Facts: Our Soviet Friends; 12.45 Write Away.

1.02 Encounter Germany; 1.20 Treffpunkt Deutschland: 1.38 Border reivers of Scotland; 2.00 You and Me; 2.15 Music Time; 2.40 Dès le début: French lesson. Closedown at 3.00.

5.35 News summary: *with sub-titles.*

5.40 Film: Tarzan the Fearless (1933*) Johnny Weismuller passed his loincloth to Buster Crabbe for this yarn about a girl's jungle search for her father. With Jacqueline Wells, Edward Woods, and E Alyn Warren. Directed by Robert F Hill.

7.00 Cartoon: Dans la vie. Made in Canada.

7.10 Open Space: Singing Songs of Whales and Things. What happened when Kent miners, belonging to th Snowdown Colliery Male Voice Choir, pitted their voices against hose of Welsh miners at the *Porthcawl Eisteddfod (see* Choice).

7.45 Alfred Marks in the Spotlight: The comedy actor/singer/panellist/raconteur looks back on a busy and varied life in show business (r).

8.30 Global Report: The Lost Harvest. A big development scheme in The Gambia, in West Africa, designed to increase the nation's rice yield, *has not only ignored the* experience of women farmers in the area, but has taken away their land, too. The reporter is Sarah Hobson.

9.00 Dear Ladies: Hinge and Bracket and a minor sporting crisis (r).

9.30 The Great Palace: The Story of Parliament. The fourth film in Christopher Jones's series about the Mother of Parliaments. Mrs Thatcher gives a guided tour of her office, and Michael Foot gives a potted history of the Commons. Also, the facts about the Four o'clock Shuffle. An how questions for one of Parliament's best-know institutions – Question Time – are selected.

10.20 Ebony: Winston Reedy provides the music in this programme of news and views about Britain's black communities. There is a special feature about Grenada.

10.50 Newsnight: bulletins and in-depth comment on the day's main stories. Ends at 11.40

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown: The words and numbers game, with Richard Whiteley in charge of the proceedings and Ned Sherrin in charge of the dictionary.

5.30 Everybody Here: The entertainment and learning *magazine for children. A day in* the life of a chief children's librarian; lessons in Gujerati; *and a reminder of what good* turkish delight ought to look and taste like. Also the poet Tom Pickard's version of the traditional Geordie tale The Lambton Worm.

6.00 The Addams Family: There is a cat burglar on the prowl, and Morticia (Carolyn Jones) suspects it may be the somnambulist Gomez.

6.30 Anything We Can Do: Do-it-yourself situations, acted out in a realistic setting. Tonight: wallpapering, and attending to car brakes.

7.00 Channel Four News. Includes Stephen Philipps on the Genius of Venice exhibition at the RA, in London.

7.50 Comment: A platform for the views of John Ward, general secretary of the Association of *First Division Civil Servants.*

8.00 Bands of Gold: Not even a heavy downpour can dampen the spirits of the United Kingdom corps as it travels to the Netherlands to compete in the Anglo-Dutch festival which forms part of the International Drum Corps Championships.

9.00 Soap: Chester snaps out of his coma – minus a few items. Dutch and Eunice are briefly reunited. And Corinne and Tim move in with the Tates.

9.30 Film: The Country Girls: Edna O'Brien's adaptation of her autobiographical novel is directed by Desmond Davies who, 20 years ago, directed the screen version The Girl with Green Eyes, the book that succeeded The Country Girls. He also directed the movie version of Edna O'Brien's I Was Happy Here. Tonight's film was shot in County Wicklow, around Bray. It stars Maeve Germaine and Jill Doyle as the two schooldays chums who subsequently experience the excitement of independence in Dublin. It also stars Sam Neill (Star of Reilly Ace of Spies (see Choice).

11.25 What the Papers Say: With George Gale, of the Daily Express.

11.40 Our Lives: The Banger's Tale. Another film in this series detailing the true experiences of young East Enders. Tonight: the story of 15-year-old Brian, a former car thief who then became a very proficient motor mechanic. His great *love is, however, driving* battered cars in demolition races.

12.20 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 news summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.00, 8.00 Today's News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint. Roger Cook's weekly investigation into listeners' problems. (r)
9.30 *The Living World.* Natural history books for Christmas. (r)
10.00 News; In Business. With Peter Hobday.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Sisters' by Pat Bince. Read by Rosalind Knight.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; Virginia Thanksgiving. On this Thanksgiving Day, Gwyn Richards explores new evidence about America's traditional celebration.
11.48 Enquire Within.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Yes Minister. Radio version of the television comedy series with the same outstanding cast of actors. (r) 12.55 Weather; Programme news.
1.00 The World at One: news.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Today's edition includes Sue MacGregor's report from the Ursula James Room at St George's Hospital London – a new facility for handicapped children, made possible, partly, by money contributed to the 1982 Children in Need Appeal. Also the sixth episode of A Tiger *for Malgudi.*
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: Jacob Creber and the Felsoe Worm. By Garry McKee. Comedy about an anarchic teenage girl's rebellion against her awful parents. She escapes with a gardener and they follow the ancient trail of a fifteenth century local hero, leaving clues behind for the parents who are in hot pursuit. The cast includes Maggie McCarthy, Rod Beacham, Elaine Lordan and Gordon Gostelow.
4.00 News; Just After Four. Travelling abroad in the 19th century.
4.10 Bookshelf. Radio 4's book programme.
4.40 Story Time: 'How Green Was My Valley' by Richard Llewellyn (9). Read by Gerald James.
5.00 New Magazine 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather; programme news.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 *My Word!* A new series of the panel game. The new chairman is Michael O'Donnell (r).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Concert Prelude. Presented by Jeremy Siepmann†
7.30 Scottish National Orchestra direct from City Hall, Glasgow. Part 1: Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Mozart (Horn Concerto No 4, with Hugh Seenan as soloist)†
8.15 Any Answers?
8.35 Concert Part 2: Dvorak (Symphony No 5)†
9.20 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Tonight's topics include Thomas Wiseman's new play, The Dealer, at the Nuffield Theatre, Southampton; and Required Writing – Miscellaneous Pieces, 1955-1982, by Philip Larkin; 9.59 Weather Forecast.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Sour Sweet' by Timothy Mo (9). Read by David Suchet.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast. England VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel 9.05-12.00For Schools: 9.05 A Service for Schools. 9.25 Secondary English 11-14. 9.55 Movement and Drama I. 10.15 Astronomy. 10.35 Country Dancing Stage 3. 10.55 Something to Think About. 11.05 In the News. 11.30-12.00 Wavelength. 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 Living Language 2.20 Radio Geography Home or Away 2.40 Quest. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Allez France! 12.30-1.10am Schools night-time broadcasting: Your Money and Your Life. 12.30 Living with Credit. 12.50 Safe Keeping.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. *Johann Stamitz (Trio in B flat for* orch, Op.1, No 5); Dvorak (Sonatina in G, Op. 100: Josef Suk, violin, with Alfred Holecek, piano); Bridge (Dance Poem).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Schumann (overture: The Bride of Messina, Op 100); Tailleferre (Concertino: with Nicanor Zabaleta, harp); Liszt (Csardas macabre: Alfred Brendel, piano); and Debussy (Symphonic Suite: Printemps).
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Telemann. The Concerto in E major for flute, oboe d'amore, viola d'amore, strings and continuo; and the oratorio: Der Messias, with the Academy of Ancient Music and solo singers and instrumentalists.
10.00 Walter Piston: the Boston SO play the Symphony No 2.
10.30 Music for Cello and Piano: recital by Robert Cohen with John Van Buskirk as accompanist. Beethoven's Sonata in A major, Op 69; and David Popper's Hungarian Rhapsody, Op 68; Serenade, Op 54, No 2; and the Polonaise de concert, Op 14.
11.15 Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra: with Gideon Kremer, violin and Kim Kashkashian, viola. Mendelssohn's overture Meeresstille und gluckliche Fahrt, Op 27 and Mozart's Sinfonia concertante K 364. Interval reading at 12.00. Then, at 12.05, Debussy's Images for Orchestra, and Ravel's Bolero.
1.00 News.
1.05 Manchester Midday Concert: harpsichord recital by Rafael Puyana. Works by Scarlatti and Antonio Soler.
2.00 The Barber of Seville: Rossini's two-act opera, on records, and sung in Italian. Neville Marriner conducts the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields. Heading the cast are Agnes Baltsa, Robert Lloyd, Matthew Best, Francisco Araiza, Thomas Allen and Domenico Trimarchi. With Nicholas Kraemer on the fortepiano. Interval reading at 3.30. Act 2 at 3.35.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Elaine Padmore's selection includes Boellmann's Symphonic Variations, Op 23 for cello and orchestra; and Martinu's Les fresques de Piero della Francesca.
6.30 Grandstand: George Benjamin's Altitude, and Derek Bourgeo's Concerto Grosso, played by the Grimethorpe Colliery Band.†
7.00 The Gentleman of the Chapel Royal: Gordon Reynolds traces the life of William Byrd.†
7.30 Garland for a Hoar Head: A second chance to hear Alfred Bradley's production of John Arden's play starring Freddie Jones as John Skelton, the poet, parson and political satirist who outwitted Cardinal Wolsey (played by David Calder). Heather Sears is the narrator (r).
9.30 Edith Vogel plays Beethoven: First of four programmes given by the distinguished pianist. Tonight we hear the Six Variations, Op 34, and the Eroica Variations, Op 35.†
10.15 Music in Our Time: Ligeti's Horn Trio.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00 pm and 9.00) major bulletins 7.00 am, 8.00, 1.00 pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight headlines 5.30 am, 6.30, 7.30 (MF/MW). 5.00am Ray Moore†. 7.30 Terry Wogan†. 10.00 Jimmy Young†. 12.00pm Music While You Work†. 12.30 Gloria Hunniford†. 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart. 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton†. 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn†including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Marching and Waltzing†. 8.30 Country Club with Wally Whyton†. 9.30 Star Sound Extra with Nick Jackson. The films of George Stoll, whose films include Anchors Aweigh and The Toast of New Orleans. 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Grumbleweeds. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00 Grand Hotel†. 2.00-5.00 *Colin Berry You and* the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30am - 8.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW). 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 2.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Janice Long, including 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Peter Powell Down Under with Duran Duran. In the second of two programmes recorded in Sydney, Peter talks to the popular band. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel† VHF Radios 1 and 2 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Country Style. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Clinging to the Wreckage. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Two Hundred Years of Piano Playing. 10.15 Monitor. 10.30 Kenneth Williams' Cabaret. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 8.15 Ulster Newsletter. 8.20 In the Meantime. 8.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 At Home With... 2.30 Sir Adrian Boult: A Life of Music. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 *Country Style. 5.45 The World Today. (All* times in GMT)

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1 Wales 12.57 pm-1.00 News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales today. 11.40 News headlines. Scotland 12.55 pm-1.00 Scottish news. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 11.40 News headlines. Northern Ireland 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland news. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland news. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six. 11.40 News headlines; weatherman (as BBC1). 11.44-12.5 am Festival Notebook (News and reviews from the 21st Belfast Festival at Queen's University). 12.05 Northern Ireland news. England 5.53 pm (Part of Sixty Minutes). 11.45 Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Hwnt ac yma. 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Am gymru. 2.55 Interval. 3.10 Counting on. 3.35 Flaxhback. 4.05 Body show. 4.30 Countdown. 4.55 Dan draed. 5.05 Anturiaethau syr wynff a plwsan. 5.30 Square Pegs. 6.00 Brookside. 6.25 Here's Lucy. 6.55 Gair yn ei bryd. 7.00 Newyddion saith. 7.30 Cefn gfwlad. 8.00 Colewg. 8.30 Tell the Truth. 9.00 Cerddorfa genedlaethol ieuenctid cymru. 10.20 Film: Malevil, French nuclear horror tale. 12.20am Gair yn ei bryd, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25-9.30 First Thing. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Youong Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Suvival. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 The Electric Theatre Show. 11.00 Nine to Five. 11.30 Sounds Gaelic. 1200 News, *Closedown.*

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TVS As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Farmhouse Kitchen. 2.05 Gossip. 2.10 Something in Disguise. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20 Sons and Daughters. 3.50-4.00 Stars on Thursday. 5.15-5.45 Terrahawks. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30 Portrait of a Legend. 12.30am Company. Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 University challenge. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies* 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 Cartoon. 7.00 Jersey Road Rally. 7.15-7.45 Judi. 10.35 Hill Street Blues. 11.30 Preview. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.25 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30-1.00 About Britain. 1.20 News. 1.30 Bate's Car. 3.30 Film. The Lady Vanishes* (Margaret Lockwood). 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Central Lobby. 11.00 News. 11.05 Fight night. 11.30 *Portrait of a Legend. 12.20 Closedown.*

BORDER As London except: 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.54 University challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30 Two of Us. 12.00 News, *Closedown.*

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround 5.15-5.45 Terrahawks 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 10.32 Mixdown. 11.00 Coming Up. 11.10 Minder. 12.10am For Our Sakes. Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farmhouse Kitchen" 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 Exchange Flags. 3.30-4.00Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Survival of the Fittest. 6.00 This is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.15-7.45Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Streets of San Francisco. 11.30 Fight Night. 12.30am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Arena. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Cambridge Folk Festival. 10.30 Folio. 11.00 Newhart. 11.30 Timeless Land. 12.30am Big Question, Closedown.

SCOTTISH *As London except:* 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Newhart. 3.30-4.00 Making a Living.. 5.10 Bodyline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.45 Give Us A Clue, 7.15-7.45 Take The High Road. 10.35 The Real World. 11.50 Late Call. 11.55 House Calls. 12.25am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25-9.30am Day Ahead. 1.20-1.30pm Lunchtime. 3.30-4.00 Laurel and Hardy* 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Cartoon. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.00 Music Of Man. *12.00 News, Closedown.*

TSW As London except: 1.20-1.30pm News. 3.30-4.00 University Challenge. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.35 Televiews. 6.45 Gardens For All. 7.15-7.45 Judi. 10.35 Hill Street Blues. 11.30 Preview. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.25am Postscript, Closedown.

HTV As London except: 1.20-1.30pm News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Three Little Words. 6.00 News. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Clive's Coast. 11.00 Film: Things of Life (Romy Schneider). 12.45am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except 6.00pm-6.50 Wales At Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 That's Hollywood. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Shine On Harvey Moon. 6.00 Calendar. 6.50 Crossroads. 7.15-7.45 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30 John *Miles in Concert. 12.30am Closedown.*

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

THE TIMES ★★★★★ First Published 1785

Smoking 'killing more than 100,000'

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prevent what has been called 'the avoidable holocaust'. Sadly, this has been far from the case."

Senior members of the college said yesterday that they would be seeking meetings with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer to press for legislative changes.

But one of the report's contributors, Dr Charles Fletcher, emeritus professor of clinical epidemiology at London university, said: "Politicians are not in the least interested in health, except their own health. Banning cigarettes in not going to win them an election, but it will hurt their relations with manufacturers who give them a lot of funds."

The report complains that the tobacco industry spends £100m a year in advertising 10 times more than the Health Education Council's budget. The health service spent an estimated £155m in 1981 in treating smoking-related diseses.

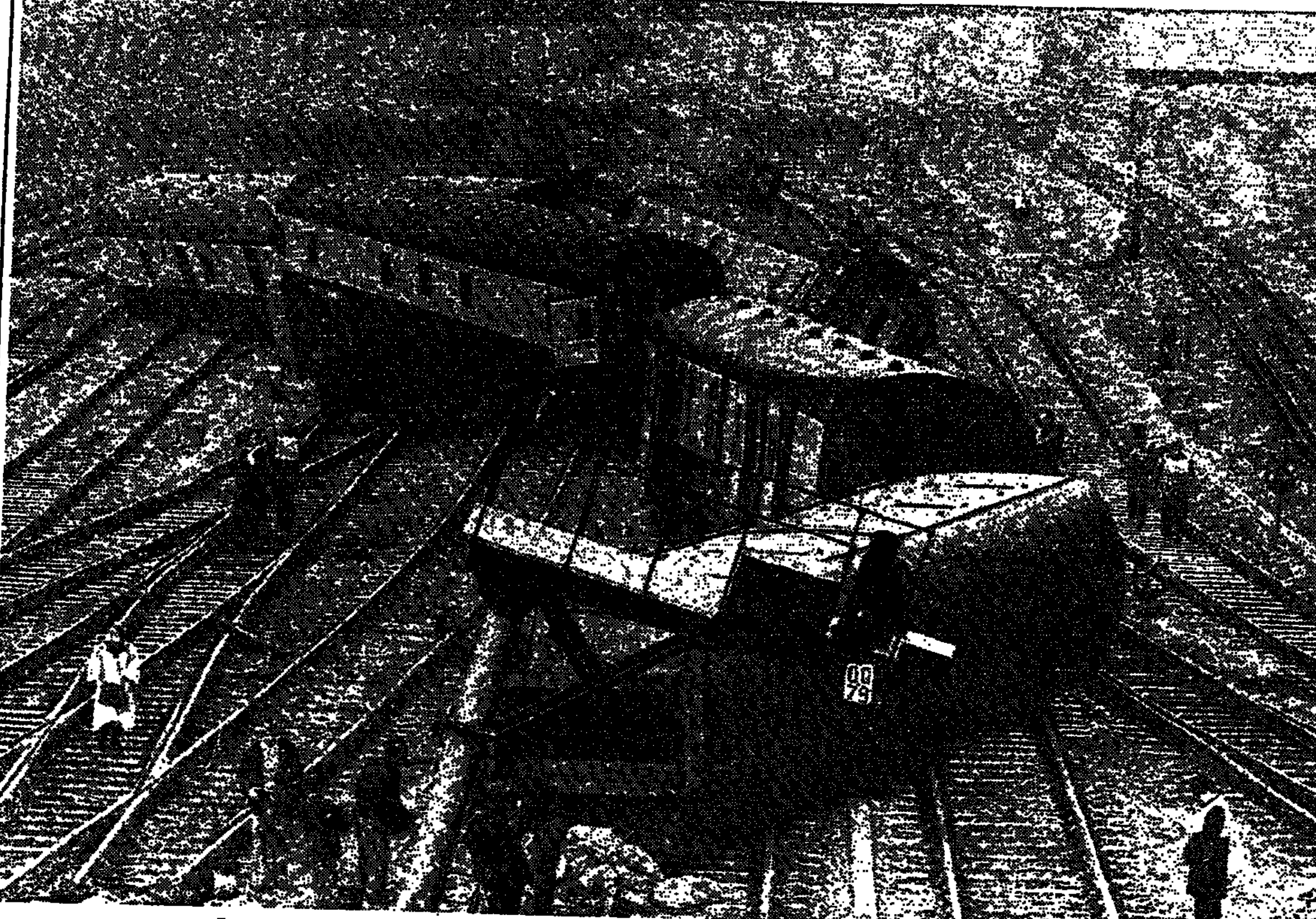
Mr John Patten the Minister for Health, said in reponse to yesterday's report: "I believe that within the restraint of a free society, the policies the Government has adopted are proving generally effective," he said. "Cigarette sales have declimed 20 per cent in the last four years

The Royal College of Physicians' first report, published in 1962, was the first authoritative report in Britain to link smoking with lung cancer. Its second report, in 1971, identified other diseases associated with smoking

The 1977 report recommended education programmes discouraging children from smoking; limiting smoking within the health service; restricting smoking in public places; phasing out tobacco sales promotion; differential price rises discriminating against high tar/nicotine cigarettes; early withdrawal of such cigarettes; and a large increase in research.

Later yesterday, Mr Patten met a delegation from the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco (Forest), which urged him "to defend smokers' rights".

The Tobacco Advisory Council rejected the college's recommendations for further restrictions on the industry. "The RCP ignores both the resulting long-term decline in government revenue from tobacco and the potential impact on employment for over 200,000 people," it said.



Jack-knife: The derailed sleeper that brought Paddington station to a halt (Photograph: John Voos).

Eleven coaches derailed in Paddington sleeper crash

By David Nicholson-Lord

Seventy people escaped without serious injury when an Inter-City sleeper train crashed off the rails as it approached Paddington station, London, yesterday, derailing 11 coaches and leaving a trail of damamge.

Only three passengers, one of them a pregnant woman, Mrs Catherine Beaumont, aged 28, were slightly hurt in the crash, which smashed signal installations and part of a platform, cut a signalling cable and left coaches strewn over a wide stretch of track.

A Department of Transport inquiry is to be held in addition to British Rail's internal investigation.

One of the first things to be investigated is the sugestion that the train may have been travelling too fast when it left the rails.

But tonight a BR spokesman at Paddington said: "I wouldn't like to speculate. There is a lot of evidence to be collated and much to be gone into. A lot of individuals have to be spoken to."

BR area manager Mr Richard Morris said: "I do not think it was caused by the frost on the rails, but it would be irresponsible to speculate at this stage."

BR said it was fortunate that no one was killed or severely injured, and praises the performance of its new "buck-eye" coupling system which kept most of the carriages linked together. With the old screw coupling, more would probably have fallen over.

The station was closed all yesterday, severely disrupting commuters' journeys, and was not likely to reopen before this morning, BR said last night.

Commuters on the Oxford and Reading lines were being advised to travel via Westbourne Park and Inter-City passengers to use Ealing Broadway. Paddington's main signalling cable was severed in the accident.

The train involved was the Riviera sleeper from Penzance which was derailed at 6.15am.

Passengers, many of whom were still in bed when the crash occurred, were helped out by station staff. The driver was lifted out of his cab but was unhurt.

Heavy duty cranes were brought in later to lift the stock but engineers feared difficulties with the locomotive because it was lying under a bridge.

Nato tries to maintain disarmament talks

Continued from page 1

"present round" as a hopeful sign.

One of the key questions now is what future there is for the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start) also being held in Geneva. The next session of negotiations is planned for next Tuesday. Moscow indicated last night, however, that the Start talks may be in danger of collapse. The situation has become "Complicated" by the INF breakdown.

In his statement to the Commons Mr Luce said: "The Russians may seek to justify their interruption of the talks by the final preparations for initial Western INF deployment. But the House will recall that the West has remained at the conference table while the Soviet Union has increased its own deployments of SS20s by over 40 per cent.

Conservatives chided the Opposition for not condemning the Russian action and finally Mr Denis Healey said that the exchanges in the House showed that all MPs deplored the Soviet withdrawal. But he said the Nato decision to deploy cruise and Pershing had "done more to damage public support for the Nato alliance than any other action taken in the last 34 years".

The Soviet walkout was caused by a grave error of judgment by Nato ministers, Mrs Joan Ruddock, the leader of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament said last night and she gave warning that it could bring nuclear war closer.

Parliamentary report, page 4
Pershings in Germany and Nato assessment, page 5
Leading article, page 13

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Facing up to Britain's long-range hooligans

Mr Richard Luce, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made a statement about the Soviet withdrawal from the Geneva talks on limiting intermediate nuclear forces.

Labour members emphasized the threat to the talks of the deployment of the American cruise and Pershings. Conservative members emphasized the threat to Western Europe of the SS20s.

It was one of those days when the issues involved were so vast – the self-confidence and expertise shown by certain members on both sides so patently bogus – that one cast around for a subject where right and wrong, as with the Second World War, for example, was stark and clear. Happily there are such issues. Thus, at question time to the Minister for Sport there was widespread unity on the threat to Western Europe posed by the British long-range weapons: the football hooligans.

Members pondered the lessons of the recent use of the weapons against Luxembourg. According to eye witnesses, very little of Luxembourg was now left. The cataclysm tended to vindicate those of us who believe that war can only be avoided by countries possessing the weapons to deter an aggressor – in effect, by a balance of terror. For could it really be doubted that Britain would have gone ahead and destroyed much of Luxembourg last week had Luxembourg possessed comparable soccer hooligans of its own?

The lessons for the world were salutary. In its hour of trial, Luxembourg simply turned out not to be a serious hooligan power. It was equipped with *some* hooligans. But they turned out to lack the weight, technical resources, numbers and sheer fire power of the British. In the last analysis, Luxembourg relied for its defence on conventional policemen. Over the years of the growing British threat, Luxembourg's statesmen appeared to have developed a Maginot mentality, a feeling that all they needed to do was stay in Luxembourg and they were safe from a British football crowd. For over a decade, Luxembourgoise police strategists had scoffed at the idea that the British could mount a surprise thrust through the low countries. But that was precisely what happened last week – with results we all now know. This was the background against which members met at sports questions yesterday.

Mr Colin Moynihan, the Conservative member for Lewisham East, demanded of the Minister, Mr Neil MacFarlane, that there should be "tougher sentencing by the courts." The idea that a crack British hooligan would be deterred by a Luxembourgoise court was, of course, laughable.

Mr Moynihan suggested that Mr MacFarlane "draw the attention of the Sports Council to the European initiative agreed at a conference in Rotterdam last week." Faith in "European initiatives" is a characteristic of naive idealists such as Mr Moynihan. We admired his sincerity, but doubted his judgment.

Next he urged Mr MacFarlane to "draw the distinction between football supporters and hooligans who have no interest in the sport," thus ignoring the problem of the thousands of Britons who have an interest in the sport and in hooliganism.

Mr MacFarlane, like Churchill wisely not relying on the League of Nations when Germany's hooligans were the problem, clearly knew that the Sports Council was powerless to deal with the sort of threat to European peace now posed by Britain.

Mr Michael McGuire, the Labour member for Makerfield, urged Mr MacFarlane to "encourage people to change to the game of Rugby Union," ignoring the likelihood that Britain would then simply develop a new generation of long-range hooligans who would attack New Zealand. Mr McGuire claimed that Rugby Union was a game in which the players "lay into one another instead of the spectators laying into one another." He added that if people could be encouraged to change to watching Rugby Union, they may eventually "move to the more noble game of Rugby League." Mr MacFarlane was wary of this complex, twin-track strategy.

"There may well be merit in what the Hon Member says, but I think it is a route fraught with risks as far as I am concerned," he replied. "It is a matter for the governing bodies," he added, by which one assumed that he was wisely not including among the governing bodies, for these purposes, the Government.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the Westminster Children's Society at the Gymnasium, Hyde Park Barracks, to mark te society's eightieth anniversary, 3.30; and as Colonel-in-Chief, she attends the King's Regiment Annual Reunion at the Duke of York's headquarters, 6.45.

The Prince and Princess of Wales open the Asian Centre at Orford Road, Walthamstow, E17, 10.30.

Princess Anne, Chancellor of the University of London, attends Foundation Day celebratins at the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, 6.30.

Princess Margaret, President of Barnardo's, presents the Champion Children of the Year Awards, in aid of Barnardo's, at the Savoy Hotel, 12.20.

The Duke of Kent, as President, attends a reception marking the launch of the Business and Technician Education Council at the Reform Club, SW1, 6.

Prince Michael of Kent presents the RAC Rally prizes, Bath, 11; and attends the British Society of Magazine Editors Annual Dinner at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, 8.

New exhibitions

Winter Exhibition by gallery artists, Colin Jellicoe Gallery, 82 Portland Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 1 to 5 (until Feb 18).

Nineteenth and twentieth century British paintings and watercolours, Mathon Gallery, Mathon Court, Malvern; Mon to Sun 9 to 12.30 (until Dec 3).

As of Now: Peter Moore's Liverpool Project 7: Work of 15 artists selected by William Feaver, Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Feb 19).

Last chance to see

National Exhibition of Children's Art, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicestershire; 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Drawn from Life: Ralph Brown, Edward Piper, William Wilkins and Clare Jarrett, Oriel 31, 31 High Street, Welshpool, Powys; 11 to 5 (ends today).

Exhibitions in progress

All That Glisters: embroidered paintings by Verina Warren; lustre earthenware bowls by Sutton Taylor and jewelry by Wendy Ramshaw and Abigail Fleissig; The Yew Tree Gallery, Ellastone, Ashbourne, Derbyshire; Tues to Sun 10 to 6 (until Dec 18).

Talks, lectures

The Elgin Marbles and romantic taste, by Alex Potts, Lecture Theatre 1, Attenborough Building, Leicester University, 5.

Music

Concert by Hilliard Ensemble, Department of Music, Manchester University, 7.30.

Recital by Yossi Zivoni (violin) and Rosemarie Wright (piano), St David's Hall, Cardiff, 1.10

Concert by Scottish National Orchestra, with Hugh Seenan (horn), City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.

Recital by Lynton Appel (cello), and Jamie Clarke (piano), St Mary's Centre, Aylesbury, 1.10.

Tapestry of music by Brian and Glynis Radford, Liverpool Parish Church, Old Churchyard, Liverpool, 1.05.

Music from 1600 onward: Duo Antiqua concert by Petronella Dittmer (violin and soprano) and Richard Coulson (harpsichord and organ), Parish Church, Combe Hay, Bath, 7.30.

Anniversaries

Births: Laurence Sterne, author of *Tristam Shandy*, Clonmel, co Tipperary, 1713; Zachary Taylor, twelfth President of the United States, 1849-50, Orange County, Virginia, 1784; Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Albi, France, 1864. Deaths: John Knox, Edinburgh, 1572; William Lamb, Second Viscount Melbourne, Prime Minister, 1834, 1835-41, near Hatfield, Hertfordshire, 1848; Robert Erskine Childers, Irish nationalist and author of *Th Riddle of the Sands*, executed; Dublin, 1922; Georges Clemenceau, Premier of France, 1917-20, Paris, 1929.

COMPUTER COMPETITION
WEEK ELEVEN DAY 3

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,295

ACROSS

1 Period of the year for night vision (9).
6 Strength of a little sound (5).
9 Sports arena where the seating may be uncomfortable (3-4).
10 He communicated without wiring (7).
11 *Vale!* to a casual note-taker (5).
12 Gilbert's dear little boatwoman (9).
14 Pole flight safety device (3).
15 System providing trolleys for unassisted take-off (4-7).
17 Inability to come to the point, as in some bars (11).
19 Its benders are super (3).
20 Kind of part taken by clique in "The Spanish Gentleman" (9).
22 What's the score? This is! (5).
24 May have a rocky foundation, but it holds water (7).
26 Panama, perhaps, for this sort of round sum (7).
27 Duck down for cover (5).
28 Amount of latitude permitted to cleaner, perhaps (9).

DOWN

1 In a word, is a bit wet (5).
2 Joseph did, dead bored (7).
3 Mess one unravels all over the place (9).
4 Gain credit by pretence (4-7).
5 Queer my game! (3).
6 Spread Borde poet's word (5).
7 GOC China upset losing a dish of dumplings (7).
8 Decoration for a page to follow a king, for example (9).
13 Acknowledgement that touchy-sounding Scotsman makes trouble (11).
14 The heat is on for runners-up at regattas (9).
16 Bull brings out some decorum in a toreador (9).
18 Reaction that can precipitate marriage (7).
19 Striker who doesn't want to come out (7).
21 Satan without capital has plenty of time (5).
23 Hurry as the characters change (5).
25 Presumably it stayed aboard the *Marie Celeste* (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 16,294

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

From Middle England, A Memory of the 1930s and 1940s, by Philip Oakes (Penguin, £3.95)
Maria Theresa, by Edward Crankshaw (Constable, £5.95)
Required Writing, Miscellaneous Pieces 1955-1982, by Philip Larkin (Faber, £4.95)
The Uncollected Sherlock Holmes, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, compiled by Richard Lancelyn Green (Penguin, £2.50).
Vicky, Princess Royal of England and German Princess, by Daphne Bennett (Constable, £5.95)
Vindolanda: The Latin Writing-Tablets, by A. K. Bowman and J. D. Thomas (Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, £16.50)
Where the Indus is Young, A Winter in Baltistan, by Dervla Murphy (Century, £4.95)
Young Shoulders, by John Wain (Black Swan, £1.95)
Voyage of the Destiny, by Robert Nye (Penguin, £2.50)
The End of the World News, by Anthony Burgess (Penguin, £2.95)

PH

Train disruption

Paddington station in London, which was closed yesterday because of the Inter-City derailment, was not likely to reopen before this morning, British Rail said last night. Commuters on the Oxford and Reading lines were advised to travel via Westbourne Park, and Inter-City passengers should use Ealing Broadway.

National Day

Zaire's National Day today marks the anniversary of the coming to power of President Mobutu Sésé Séko in a coup on November 24-25, 1965. Formerly the Belgian Congo, Zaire became independent as the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1960. The subsequent disorder centred on the attempted secession of Katanga province, which led to the stationing of United Nations troops.

General Mobutu, who had taken temporary power in 1960, decided on November 24, 1965, that he should again take over, and the swift army coup was endorsed by the Congolese Parliament 24 hours later. In October, 1971, the name changed to the Republic of Zaire.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on motion to approve Chancellor of the Exchequer's Autumn Statement.

Lords (3): Debate on shipping industry. Motions on milk regulations.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.66	1.58
Austria Sch	29.10	27.50
Belgium Fr	84.25	80.25
Canada $	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.82	14.12
Finland Mkk	8.82	8.42
France Fr	12.40	11.90
Germany DM	4.10	3.91
Greece Dr	160.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.75	11.15
Ireland Pt	1.32	1.27
Italy Lira	2480.00	2370.00
Japan Yen	355.00	342.00
Netherlands Gld	4.62	4.39
Norway Kr	11.46	10.86
Portugal Esc	202.00	192.00
South Africa Rd	1.78	1.65
Spain Pta	235.00	226.00
Sweden Kr	12.12	11.55
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA $	1.51	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	220.00	207.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 340.7.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 1.3 at 724.4.

Roads

London and South-East: A405: Single lane, temporary signals on High Road, Cowley, Royal Oak public house. **A4088:** One lane each way at Blackbird Hill and Neasden Lane. **A40:** New layout at Western Avenue between Horsenden Lane and Medway Parade.

Midlands: A46: Lanes closed on Warwick bypass. **A6:** Temporary Signals at Belper, Derbyshire. **A1:** Lanes closed at Colsterworth.

North: A66: Temporary lights North Bitts to Greta Bridge, Co Durham. **A1:** Roadworks at Wansbeck viaduct, Morpeth bypass. **M18:** Lanes closed between junctions 2 and 5.

Wales and West: A377: Temporary signals at Colleton Mills between Chulmleigh and Barnstaple. **A5:** Restrictions at Nant Ffrancon pass between Bethesda and Betrws-y-Coed, Gwyned. **A48:** 24hr signals at Drefach, Dyfed, between Carmarthen and junction 49 (M4).

Scotland: A737: Lane closed on Main Road, Elderslie. **A77:** One lane each way on Fenwick Road, N of Eastwood Toll (A726), Giffnock; alternative route advised. **A1:** Single land, temporary lights E of Tranent.

The papers

The **Daily Star** gives the Bill to control video "nasties" its "full-hearted support", with one reservation: "The Bill doesn't specifically include pornography as one of its tests for the suitability of video tapes. Yet the degredation of sex and women is probably one of the most powerful distortions a young mind can suffer ... It is no good controlling video violence and allowing hard porn to flourish."

The **Daily Mirror** comments: "The Russians walked out of the Geneva disarmament talks yesterday knowing that sooner or later they will walk back. It was all part of the superpower charade, the empty posturing which nowadays passes for negotiations. Instead of nations talking to nations about disarmament we have bureaucrats talking to bureaucrats.

Summits are out of diplomatic fashion. But when stalemate is reached, only presidents and prime ministers can end it. Nineteen eighty four would be a good year for leaders to start talking to each other again instead of abusing each other from long distance."

The **Washington Post** yesterday asked whether the recent church killings in Northern Ireland might not turn out to be a turning point: "Perhaps, finally, a growing number will join the few brave peacemakers in that troubled corner of the world and say, 'We will go no further with this madness, let us begin to learn to live together' ".

Weather forecast

Troughs of low pressure will move across all areas from SW.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central N England, E Midlands: Dry at first, rain spreading quickly from W; dry, bright or clear intervals later; wind SE; becoming SW, moderate; max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

East Anglia, E England: Dry at first, rain, drier latter; wind SE, light to moderate, becoming SW, moderate; max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Central S, SW England, W Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales: Rain clearing, sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind SE, becoming SW, moderate or fresh; max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Rain clearing, sunny intervals, showers, frequent and heavy over high ground; wind SE, becoming SW, fresh or strong; max 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Central Highlands, NW Scotland: Dry at first, rain, heavy in places, spreading from W, clearer later; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, hazy sunshine at first, becoming cloudy, rain; wind SW, becoming SE, moderate; max 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mild, rain at times, bright intervals. Rather windy.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind SE, light, veering S, moderate or fresh; sea smooth, becoming moderate. **English Channel (E):** Wind SE, veering SW, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. **St George's Channel, Irish Sea:** Wind S, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 7.33am
Sun sets: 4.01pm
Moon sets: 11.49am
Moon rises: 7.32pm
Last Quarter November 27.

Lighting-up time

London 4.31 pm to 7.04 am
Bristol 4.41 pm to 7.14 am
Edinburgh 4.22 pm to 7.38 am
Manchester 4.31 pm to 7.21 am
Penzance 4.58 pm to 7.20 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

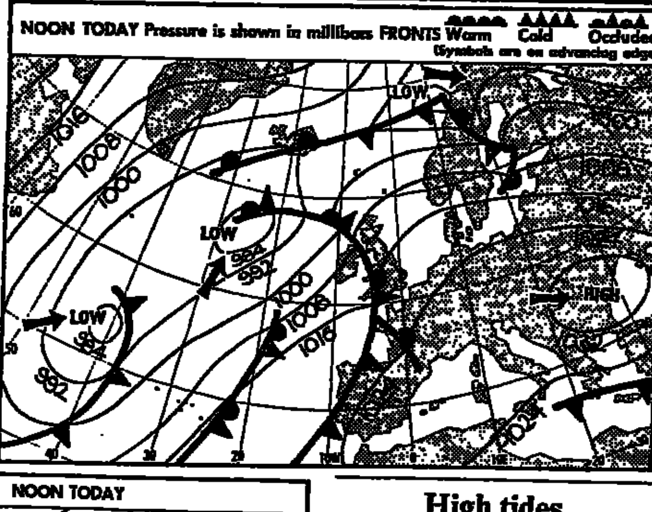
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	2	36	Guernsey	s	6	43
Birmingham	s	3	37	Inverness	-	-	-
Blackpool	s	4	39	Jersey	s	5	41
Bristol	-	-	-	London	s	4	39
Cardiff	-	-	-	Manchester	s	3	37
Edinburgh	-	-	-	Newcastle	f	6	43
Glasgow	fg	3	37	Ronaldsway	f	7	45

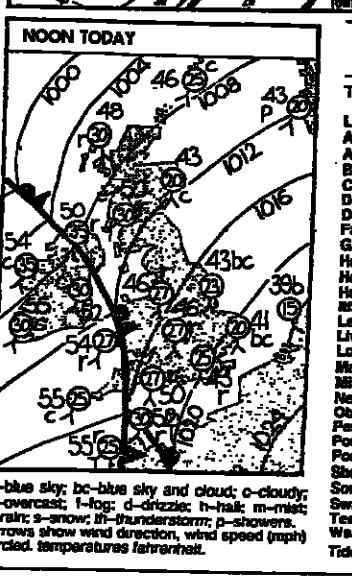
London

Yesterday: Temp max 6am to 6pm 6C (43F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Humidity: 6pm, 71 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.0in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 6.5hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1023.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

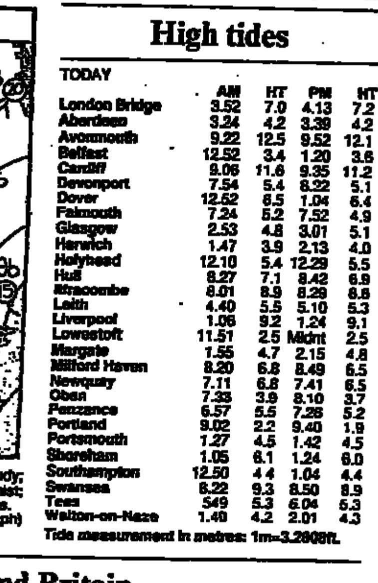
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Stornaway, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Benson (Oxon) 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath 0.28in; highest sunshine: Jersey 8.0hr.





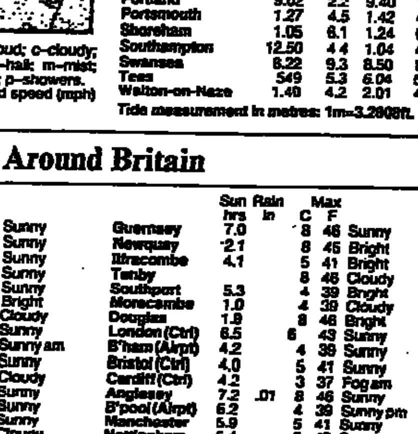
b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

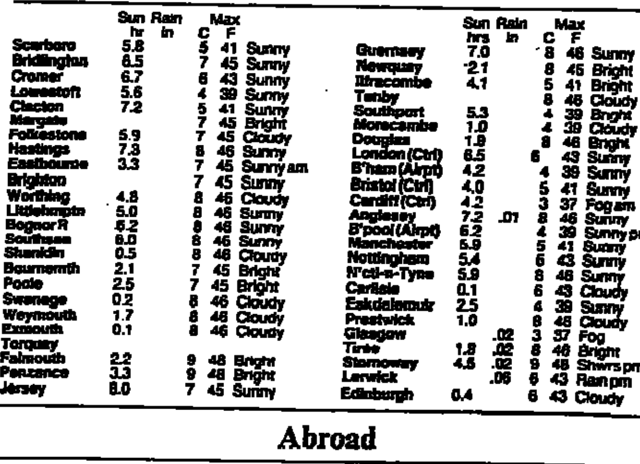


High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Lowestoft	11.51	2.5	Mdnt	2.5
Margate	1.55	4.7	2.15	4.8
Milford Haven	8.20	6.8	8.49	6.5
Newquay	7.11	6.8	7.41	6.5
Oban	7.33	3.9	8.10	3.7
Penzance	6.57	5.5	7.26	5.2
Portland	9.02	2.2	9.40	1.9
Portsmouth	1.27	4.5	1.42	4.5
Shoreham	1.05	6.1	1.24	6.0
Southampton	12.50	4.4	1.04	4.4
Swansea	8.22	9.3	8.50	8.9
Tees	549	5.3	6.04	5.3
Walton-on-Naze	1.40	4.2	2.01	4.3

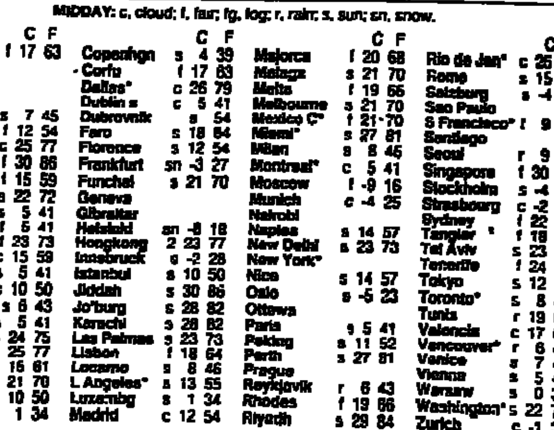
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.





Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarboro	5.8		5	41	Sunny
Bridlington	6.5		7	45	Sunny
Cromer	6.7		6	43	Sunny
Lowestoft	5.6		4	39	Sunny
Clacton	7.2		5	41	Sunny
Margate			7	45	Bright
Folkestone	5.9		7	45	Cloudy
Hastings	7.8		8	46	Sunny
Eastbourne	3.3		7	45	Sunny am
Brighton			7	45	Sunny
Worthing	4.8		8	46	Cloudy
Littlehmptn	5.0		8	46	Sunny
Bognor R	6.2		8	46	Sunny
Southsea	6.0		8	46	Sunny
Shanklin	0.5		8	46	Cloudy
Bournemth	2.1		7	45	Bright
Poole	2.5		7	45	Bright
Swanage	0.2		8	46	Cloudy
Weymouth	1.7		8	46	Cloudy
Exmouth	0.1		8	46	Cloudy
Torquay					
Falmouth	2.2		9	48	Bright
Penzance	3.3		9	48	Bright
Jersey	8.0		7	45	Sunny
Guernsey	7.0		8	46	Sunny
Newquay	2.1		8	45	Bright
Ilfracombe	4.1		5	41	Bright
Tenby			8	46	Cloudy
Southport	5.3		4	39	Bright
Morecambe	1.0		4	39	Cloudy
Douglas	1.8		8	46	Bright
London (Ctrl)	6.5		6	43	Sunny
B'ham (Airpt)	4.2		4	39	Sunny
Bristol (Ctrl)	4.0		5	41	Sunny
Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.2		3	37	Fog am
Anglesey	7.2	.01	8	46	Sunny
B'pool (Airpt)	6.2		4	39	Sunny pm
Manchester	5.9		5	41	Sunny
Nottingham	5.4		6	43	Sunny
N'ctl-n-Tyne	5.9		8	46	Sunny
Carlisle	0.1		6	43	Cloudy
Eskdalemuir	2.5		4	39	Sunny
Prestwick	1.0		8	46	Cloudy
Glasgow		.02	3	37	Fog
Tiree	1.8	.02	8	46	Bright
Stornoway	4.6	.02	9	48	Shwrs pm
Lerwick		.06	6	43	Rain pm
Edinburgh	0.4		6	43	Cloudy



Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	17	63	Copenhgn	s	4	39	Majorca	f	20	68	Rio de Jan*	c	25	77
Akrotiri				Corfu	f	17	63	Malaga	s	21	70	Rome	s	15	59
Alexandria				Dallas*	c	26	79	Malta	f	19	66	Salzburg	s	-4	25
Algiers				Dublin s	c	5	41	Melbourne	s	21	70	Sao Paulo			
Amsterdam	s	7	45	Dubrovnik	s		54	Mexico C*	f	21	70	S Francisco*	f	9	48
Athens	f	12	54	Faro	s	18	64	Miami*	s	27	81	Santiago			
Bahrain	c	25	77	Florence	s	12	54	Milan	s	8	45	Seoul	r	9	48
Barbados*	f	30	86	Frankfurt	sn	-3	27	Montreal*	c	5	41	Singapore	f	30	86
Barcelona	f	15	59	Funchal	s	21	70	Moscow	f	-9	16	Stockholm	s	-4	28
Beirut	s	22	72	Geneva				Munich	c	-4	25	Strasbourg	c	-2	28
Belgrade	s	5	41	Gibraltar				Nairobi				Sydney	f	22	72
Berlin	f	5	41	Helsinki	sn	-8	18	Naples	s	14	57	Tangier	f	18	64
Bermuda*	f	23	73	Hongkong	2	23	77	New Delhi	s	23	73	Tel Aviv	s	23	73
Biarritz	c	15	59	Innsbruck	s	-2	28	New York*				Tenerife	f	24	75
Boulogne	s	5	41	Istanbul	s	10	50	Nice	s	14	57	Tokyo	s	12	54
Bordeaux	c	10	50	Jiddah	s	30	86	Oslo	s	-5	23	Toronto*	s	8	46
Brussels	s	6	43	Jo'burg	s	28	82	Ottawa				Tunis	r	19	66
Budapest	s	5	41	Karachi	s	28	82	Paris	s	5	41	Valencia	c	17	63
Buen Aires*	s	24	75	Las Palmas	s	23	73	Peking	s	11	52	Vancouver*	r	6	43
Cairo	s	25	77	Lisbon	f	18	64	Perth	s	27	81	Venice	s	7	45
Cape Tn	c	16	61	Locarno	s	8	46	Prague				Vienna	s	5	41
C'blanca	s	21	70	L Angeles*	s	13	55	Reykjavik	r	6	43	Warsaw	s	0	32
Chicago*	f	10	50	Luxembg	s	1	34	Rhodes	f	19	66	Washington*	s	22	72
Cologne	f	1	34	Madrid	c	12	54	Riyadh	s	29	84	Zurich	c	-1	30